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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 14TH FEBRUARY.

THE LONDON EXAMINER has a fair article on Lord Northbrook. We make the following extract from it:

"Of Lord Northbrook's viceroyalty in the main we would speak with the highest respect. As a matter of judgment, possibly the Baroda trial was a mistake. We think it was. The Famine operations, in the same way, might, and we think did, include several errors. But in both these cases the aim was nothing less than grand. We use the word advisedly. If the trial convinced India of nothing else but that the Viceroy did not want a plea for a new annexation, the point gained was invaluable. In the case of the Famine a still more important moral was secured, only not exactly the moral that Englishmen are so ready to credit themselves with: the cost of saving the famine-stricken people in Bengal and Behar was not England's cost, but India's, and the moral which Lord Northbrook made his own— the care for life of the very poorest and most obscure in the vast empire under his rule—will not speedily pass away. We do not think, indeed, that India ever had a Governor-General who impressed natives of India more truly with his sincerity, his generosity, and his simple good faith. He has not, it must be granted, shone in state ceremonial. It would be a funny thing to imagine him wearing a hat spangled with a hundred thousand pounds worth of jewels after the example the other day of the Maharajah of Puttiala, or fighting like the chief of Vizianagram, for more guns to be added to those fired as his salute, the stamp of position among chiefs. Perhaps Lord Northbrook's chief weakness has been as to public criticism, and that is a weakness he has shared with some of the strongest men ever sent by England to India. On his own part, we are satisfied that the Viceroy would have discouraged, and indeed refused, magnificent gifts such as have been made to the Prince of Wales. On the whole, with the one exception referred to above, the most questionable act of Lord Northbrook's viceroyalty is his retirement from it, and in any case he will leave behind him in India a singularly fair fame."

The people of India consider Lord Northbrook's resignation a national calamity.

THE ALLUSION to "barbaric" pomp by the *Times* in the reception of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales in India has led to a "barbaric" comparison between the civilization of England and India. We have already noticed the letter of a "member of the Brahmo Sumaj of India," which has elicited replies from Dr. Trevor and others. Dr. Trevor's letter in its turn has evoked a powerful reply from Mr. Humphrey Sandwith in the columns of the London *Examiner*. We give the letter *in extenso*:

"It seems to me that Dr. Trevor shuts his eyes very firmly to what he may any day see at home. The chief sport assuredly in every country-house is the slaughter of pheasants, quite apart from exercise, skill, or what may be termed "sport" in the old-fashioned sense of the word. Again, during the London season by far the most fashionable place of resort has been Hurlingham, where the *elite* of both sexes witness the slaughter of vast number of doves, and latterly cock-fighting has been not unknown amongst our upper classes, while but a few years ago we had quite an outbreak of prize-fighting. The illustrated papers, too, have lately indulged our better classes with the amusements of the Prince of Wales in India, which are exciting, and apparently as much relished at home as in India. The sports of our masses, in the Black Country at least, are notoriously dog-fighting, rat-killing, badger-drawing, and the like. I fail to see any great difference in the amusements of the two peoples, excepting that in India these bloody spectacles are alternated by dances, processions, and other joyous scenes, while our masses have nothing else for recreation but the besotted excitement afforded by gin and beer.

As for our domestic habits we need go no further than our metropolis, which perhaps affords the most favourable illustration. Every human being in this vast city is more or less in the condition of a chimney sweep; our skins are always polluted with coal smoke. The upper-classes constantly wash themselves; the mass of the people cannot do more than wash their face and hands. In the wettest climate in the world baths for the people are few and far between, and the people are *filthy* in consequence. In this respect the comparison between Englishmen and Hindoos is truly disgraceful to the former. But worse, has to be mentioned. We deliberately drink of the diluted excrement of our neighbours. We give a monopoly of a necessary of life to trading companies, who draw their water from a river which is neither more nor less than a common sewer. In the drinking water of the wealthiest people are to be found "partially digested and decomposed flesh meat, epithelium cells, &c." (*vide* the reports of Dr. Frankland.)

The Rev. Doctor refers to the Indian Mutiny and Nana Sahib. Since then events have occured which prove us to be near relations, at all events. We have no proof, indeed rather the contrary, that the horrors of Cawnpore were more than a massacre, unutterably horrible, still a simple savage massacre. On the occasion of the Jamaica disturbances, for more than three weeks Englishmen were out-doing even those horrors. It is on official record that besides the slaughter of hundreds of unarmed fugitives the most refined tortures were applied even to women. Some females were flogged with wire whips, and this sport was only abandoned because it was found their skins were not tough enough. Our officers had men put up as a mark to shoot at; many were tortured first and hanged afterwards; and a member of the local legislature, being a religious man, was deprived of the solace of clergyman before execution. Surely there was nothing to equal this in the worst excesses of Nana Sahib; and yet the people of England were either indifferent, or the upper classes loudly applauded what was called the "vigour" shown by panic-stricken magistrates and others in their treatment of unarmed peasantry. The Church assuredly spoke no word in favour of justice and mercy, nor has it ever done so in similar instances. We might paraphrase the very words of Dr. Trevor, and say "the cruelties inflicted on women and children were not the acts of the soldiery only—they were shared in cold blood by magistrates and others."

Assuredly the casting of corpses into the Hoogly is a barbarous way of disposing of the dead, and equally certain is it that our children will deem us barbarians for still enduring the loathsome churchyard all over the country one of which is but a few hundred yards from where I write.

It is difficult to answer the observations of a clergyman concerning religious matters without appearing to transgress the rules of good breeding, as of course he is professionally involved in the system; but when he writes of "the Gospel of the poor," I am tempted to ask if he is really speaking of British Christianity, the outcome of which is that in no country in the world are the poor so degraded, so hopeless, so wanting in the dignity of man. It would, I think, be difficult to find a land system like our own, under which the poor man cannot purchase a plot of ground, where the country people have lost the taste of milk, while the peasantry are allowed to wallow in bestial degradation, and lose all hope of improving their joyless lot.

This system is always supported by our clergy.

If I am correct in declaring that I have never seen a Moslem village where the peasants were not cleaner, more chaste, more dignified than in any English village, I think we need not boast of the "Gospel of the poor," and I do most positively declare the above to be the result of observation.

We are bid to look at the Thugs of India, but I answer that a large proportion of the people of these islands belongs to a religion which has always sanctioned religious murder. So in times past has the Anglican Church, and assuredly it is not religious but secular influence which has saved us all from this correction for the good of our souls.

The reverend Doctor esteems the Indian worship as barbarous, and I think justly; nevertheless, is it or is it not a fact that in scores of churches in London, both Roman Catholic and Anglican, the people are solemnly taught that a miracle is performed, that certain pieces of bread are actually and positively changed into the flesh, and that wine is changed into the blood of a Jewish preacher who was executed nearly 2,000 years ago? I think, too, that the Indian priest who told Dr. Trevor that "he served the God because the God filled his belly," merely differed from a good many English clergymen in being more brutally honest; how, indeed, could it be otherwise with our system of "younger sons" and "family livings."

In truth, it is difficult for two peoples to compare their respective civilizations. It should be done by a third and superior being, some stray tourist from the moon. An Eastern never treads on a carpet with his shoes on; we fill ours with loathsome dust from the filthy streets. An Eastern never washes in dirty water as we do; he has water poured over his hands when he washes; he is more humane to the old and feeble of his family; our poor-law has nearly extinguished all family feeling, and no one can deny that he excels us in gentle manners and politeness as he does in artistic instinct in dress and decoration.

We, on the other hand, have more power of organisation, more vigour of body and mind, and purer courts of justice. But which is the more civilized, it may be asked; to which I answer, What is civilization? Let us agree on that point first.

The extract is long but it will amply repay perusal.

THE FOLLOWING picture of the "Indian Alps" by a lady author is very graphic:

"The mists that invariably ascend the valleys, like the breath of the morning, to greet the rising sun, had not yet appeared, but were still hovering about the mighty rivers far, far below, or lying in sleepy hollows in the mountains; and the stupendous peaks, with their miles of virgin snow, were standing out clear, stately and solemn, like giant phantoms against the darkening sky where pale stars were feebly shining as though weary of their long watch over the sleeping world. In another instant Kinchinjunga, the centre and proud monarch of them all, was tipped with vermilion; then followed other peaks in rapid succession, till the effect against the still cold and opaque sky, whilst the world beneath was also hovering between darkness and dawn, was precisely that of their having been kindled by some mighty hand, for as yet the extreme points only were illuminated and the glaciers and vast rocky valleys of the snowy region were wrapped in that mysterious ghost-like gloom impossible to describe, and which must be seen even to be imagined.... These mountains of the Himalaya, from their exalted position in the heavens, catch a glimpse of the sun when he is still so far below the horizon that his rays have no influence upon that portion of the earth visible to us, and before even dawn, the forerunner, has appeared. In the universal darkness and gloom, therefore, that brood over all, these giant fires against the almost sable vault of heaven appear terribly weird and supernatural."

A reviewer says that nothing of the sort is to be seen in Europe.

THE SPLENDID palace of Scindia just finished is said to be an almost exact imitation of Buckingham Palace.

THE AMERICAN HOUSE of Representatives, although now so strongly Democratic, has refused to pass the Bill proposing to relieve ex-Confederates from all political disabilities,

ONE LEADING branch of Sheffield trade with the United States, the Bessemer steel rails, has entirely collapsed, not a single ton having been sent for nine months.

TUESDAY, 15TH FEBRUARY.

THE SULTAN of Turkey has directed Djevdet Pasha, Minister of Justice, to proceed to the European provinces to ascertain that the reforms recently decreed are properly carried out.

REFORM in Turkey seems to proceed at a Railway speed. The *Times'* correspondent says: Judges and members of administrative councils are to be chosen by the people on a broad basis of universal indirect suffrage. The population will be divided into primary "colleges," or constituencies, of not less than 200 families each, admitting to the polls every taxpayer without distinction at the age of 20. From the vote of each such constituency is to spring an electoral assembly, who will meet in the provincial town, two electors from each constituency and two from each ward of the town itself. These will give their vote for the Judges and councilmen. The secondary electors must be not less than 25 years old. Judges and councilmen will only be eligible at or after 30 years of age. For every Judge or councilmen required two will have to be elected, and the double list of successful candidates will be presented to the local authorities, with whom the ultimate appointment of one-half of the number will rest. The same principle will equally be applied to *Vilayets*, or provinces, and greater or lesser districts—Sanjaks and Cazas—the appointment of the higher functionaries of the provinces being submitted to the final approval of the Sublime Porte. The elective initiative rests thus with the people, the Government merely reserving a partial control over the popular choice.

A GERMAN PAPER comments on the rapid progress made by Sebastopol since it was declared a commercial port, just twelve months ago. New buildings and boulevards have sprung up as if by magic. It is now the second corn granary in Southern Russia,

THE YEARLY report of the Russian Education Department states that, excluding Finland, the Caucasus, and Central Asia, there are 22,768 elementary schools, with 754,431, male and 185,056 female scholars. This shows one scholar to 48 males and 205 females, and one school to 3,294 inhabitants. In the German Provinces there is one school to 2, 044 persons, and one scholar to 15 males and 24 females. In the Gymnasia, where the pupils have the option of learning French or German, 11, 382 prefer German and 8, 508 French, this preponderance for German being almost entirely furnished by the pupils entering during the last two years.

M. BRODSKY, a most respected inhabitant and member of the Town Council of Odessa, has been suddenly sent to Siberia by decree of the Political Police Department, without so much as the semblance of judicial proceedings. There are conflicting rumours that he sold arms to Turkey, delivered a speech against the Government in the Town Council, or else was accessory to drawing up and publishing the Odessa report on the export trade. There is also a statement that 11 more persons have been arrested at Odessa and sent after M. Brodsky; but the real circumstances remain to be ascertained. Let those, who seem to be discontented with British rule, ponder over these facts carefully.

NEWS FROM Siam says that a surveying expedition has been ordered by the Siamese Government to proceed under the command of Captain Lotus to survey the Siamese coasts of the Malayan peninsula.

THE SEMI-OFFICIAL journals of Berlin have announced that Prussia, being tired of continuing negotiations with Denmark, now considers the question of the execution of Article V. of the treaty of Prague finally set at rest, execution having been proved impracticable. Prussia intends to keep all Schleswig, and to notify its decision to this effect to the other Powers interested in the Treaty of Prague.

WEDNESDAY, 16TH FEBRUARY.

THE PARIS correspondent of the *Hour* telegraphs the following under reserve.—"The German Government is desirous of restoring Lorraine to France for the sum of two milliards of francs, owing to the impoverished state of that province since its annexation to Germany. The French Government is not inclined to entertain the proposal."

CELLULID is the name of a new explosive compound which has been largely used in America, and also recently introduced into England. It is composed principally of gun-cotton and camphor, and resembles in appearance ivory so very perfectly, that the best judges have been deceived. This new substance contains within itself the elements of its own combustion, and hence its peculiarly dangerous character.

A COMPANY has been formed in London for the purpose of introducing railways into China. The first experimental line will be between Shanghai and Woosung, a distance of nine and a half miles.

OUT OF a total population of 35,000,000 in France there are stated to be 500,000 Protestants and 49, 000 Jews, half of the latter inhabiting Paris. The number of Frenchmen, who have formally declared that they do not belong to any religion, is about 82,000, and 3,071 are classed as members of "diverse sects."

THE DEADLY effect of human saliva on poisonous snakes is positively asserted by a farmer of Georgia. According to the *New York Herald*, as the farmer was in a field picking up some straw, a rattle-snake four feet long fell from the straw at his feet. He set his heel on the reptile's head and spit into its mouth. In a few moments the snake became sick and powerless, and died in a quarter of an hour. Shortly after he caught an adder, and following out his experiment, the creature died whilst by merely wetting a stick with his lips, and drawing it on another adder's nose, the same result ensued. On spitting into the mouth of a harmless snake, however, the creature was uninjured.

THE LONDON water-supply seems to be the cause of much anxiety to the residents of the metropolis just now. "The fact is," says the *Standard*, "that the Rivers Pollution Commissioners have condemned the water-supply of the metropolis excepting certain deep wells in the chalk." The water supply of the great metropolis is in the hands of eight companies, and five of them supply Thames water." The "river above the intakes of the Water Companies receives the sewage from a large number of towns and other inhabited places, the washings of a large area of highly cultivated lands and the filthy discharges from many industrial processes and manufactures. The river is used for bathing, for the washing of sheep cattle and dirty linen. The putrid carcases of animals float upon the surface"; and, a *finale* to this tale of horrors, we are told that "there is no hope of this disgusting state of the river being so far remedied as to prevent the admixture of animal and other offensive matters with the filtered Thames water as delivered in the metropolis." We in Calcutta ought to be thankful for what we have got.

WE HEAR with great regret that small-pox is alarmingly prevalent in Bombay, and making sad havoc amongst the people, who seem quite panic-stricken. The mortality is said to be very great, and the dread disease shows no symptoms of abating, notwithstanding the exertions being made by the authorities to stamp it out.

THURSDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY.

THE EAST states that the great Bhaugulpore Adoption Case, in which seven lakhs of rupees were involved, has been dismissed. We are told that the decision of the Judge was received with loud acclamations by the people, who had thronged the Court.

WE LEARN from the same journal that at the general examination of students of the Inns of Court, held at Lincoln's-Inn Hall, on the 31st December and the 1st, 5th, 6th, and 7th of January, the Council of Legal Education awarded certificates to the effect that they have satisfactorily passed a public examination to Navroji Pestanji Cama Esq., of the Middle Temple; Minacshaya Cambhampati, Esq., of Lincolns Inn; Nagendra Nath Ghose, Esq., of the Middle Temple; and Avinash Chandra Mitra, Esq. also of the Middle Temple.

THE LARGEST TELESCOPE THAT HAS EVER yet been invented has been ordered by the Austro-Hungarian Government for the new observatory at Vienna. It is being made by a Mr. Grubb at Dublin. The object glass will have an aperture of over 26 inches. The focal length will be about 32 feet, the great base casting weighs from seven to eight tons, will form a chamber about 12 feet long, 4½ feet wide, and 8 feet high for the clock. The tube will be entirely of steel, and the whole instrument is expected to be completed in the autumn of 1878.

MR. JUSTICE JACKSON has gone on a tour of inspection to Gya and visited the Judge's Court to investigate the charge of dilatoriness against Mr. Bignold, the District Judge. The following interesting dialogue, which we reproduce from the *Indian Mirror*, took place between Mr. Justice Jackson and a pleader:

His Lordship.—"What is your name?"
Pleader.—(Gave his name with a faltering voice).
His Lordship.—"Are you a Pleader?"
Pleader.—"Yes, please, your Lordship."
His Lordship.—"Are you a B. L.?"
Pleader.—"An L. L., yes? Lordship."
His Lordship.—"What t hat on your head? Do you call hat decent or respectable ? h y don't you use a turban?"

Pleader.—"I can't afford to pay for a *Shamla*; I have been using this cap for sometime, your Lordship."
His Lordship.—"It is neither decent nor respectable; you must show proper respect to the Court. Why don't you use a white turban? It is very cheap."
Pleader.—"With that, as with the *Shamla*, I would feel myself very uncomfortable in the hot season.
His Lordship.—"Get a light white turban weighing not more than 10 rupees."
Pleader.—"Will your Lordship permit me to take off my cap at the Ijlas and sit bareheaded like Mr.—?"
His Lordship.—"Where is Mr.—, what is he?"
Pleader.—"There, please, your Lordship."
His Lordship.—"Is Mr.—a Hindu? He is not a Hindu, but a Christian.
Pleader.—"Neither am I a Hindu, (so far as my creed goes), please, your Lordship."
His Lordship.—"Oh! you are a Brahmo then?"
Pleader.—"Yes, please, your Lordship."
His Lordship.—"Well, what I tell you now, I would also repeat to a European barrister, were he to come before me without his gown or his waistcoat."
Pleader.—"Certainly, your Lordship."
His Lordship.—"—But I don't wish to bring any pressure upon you. For my own part, I am not for *Shamlas*, especially when they are old. I must, however, tell you that you should be decent and respectful towards the Court even in your dress. Your cap looks anything but decent and respectful. On the contrary, it shows *disrespect*. Babus walk in the streets with such caps."
Pleader.—"It is not an *intentional* disrespect, My Lord."
His Lordship.—"I know it is not intentional."

We are glad that Mr. Justice Jackson insisted upon proper decorum in Court. The putting on of the pugri is a proper mark of respect with the Hindus.

THE SUM of Rs. 10,000 has been subscribed for the Bhau Daji Memorial. The Memorial Committee have resolved that of the sum "subscribed Rs. 5,000 in four per cent. paper be tendered to the University to form a prize of books to be awarded yearly in such a manner as the Senate may think best, to be called the Bhau Daji Prize, and that with the balance the MSS. collected by the late Dr. Bhau Daji be purchased and placed in the Library of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Assiatic Society as a separate collection to be called the Bhau Daji Testimonial."

MR. GEORGE BATTEN, the *Pioneer* hears, acts during Mr. Hume's absence as Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Revenue, and Commerce. Could not a Bengal Civilian have been found to fill this vacancy? Mr. Geoghegan or Mr. Reynolds would have made an unexceptionable successor to Mr. Hume. Of late years the tendency has been to leave the Bengal Civilians out in the cold. There is not a single Bengal Civilian in the India Secretariats except Mr. Chapman.

ACCORDING to a contemporary M. Garcin De Tassy, in his review of Hindustani Literature for 1875, has the following:—"that while in Europe poetry is rather declining, the Art is flourishing with marvellous, not to say alarming, vigour in India. In the Panjab alone there are now seventyfour poets. Of those fourteen belong to the first rank, sixteen belong to the second, twenty-seven to the third, and the remainder to the fourth."

FRIDAY, 18TH FEBRUARY.

THERE WERE some errors in the account of the Paikpara estate, which we copied last week from the Bengal Administration Report for 1874-75. It was stated that the rental of the estate was nearly nine lakhs of rupees, but we are informed that this is a mistake. We are told that the whole estate, including of course that in the North-West Provinces—has a rent-roll of nearly 11 lakhs; in 1874-75 it yielded Rs. 10,75,204, of which about 4 lakhs (including *all* the estates in the North-West) represent "khas" management. The estate we believe is next in size to Durbhungah, with this difference, that whereas the latter is compact and lies within 3 or 4 districts, the former is scattered through 18 districts, *viz.*, 24-Pergunnahs, Hooghly, Nuddea, Jessore, Moorshedabad, Furreedpore, Noacolly, Rajshahye Dinagepore, Parneah, Midnapore, Beerbhoom, Burdwan, Pooree, Maldah, Alygurh, Bolundshuhur, Muttra. The income of the estate has increased by about Rs. 80,000 per annum since it was placed in the hands of the Court of Wards. Mr. Harvey deserves great credit for the successful management of the estate.

THE PIONEER, though it does not, agree with all that was said at the meeting of the rate-payers at the British Indian Association, agrees with them in the main. Our contemporary says:

"If there is to be a trial of local self-government, let it be genuine. A Calcutta contemporary has said that twenty men nominated by the Government on account of their known ability and character, would rule Calcutta better than the best Municipality, elected under the present circumstances, could govern it; and perhaps few wise friends of local self-rule would feel disposed to quarrel with the assertion. But the question now before the Bengal Government and the public is, whether the time has arrived for the Calcutta people to begin their apprenticeship in self-rule; so that in the course of time they may evolve a body of representatives as fully qualified as the supposed model twenty. Right or wrong, wise or foolish, this municipal idea is one of the ideas of the day. To an honest attempt at its final realization the British Government in India stands committed; and it is quite certain that the people can never learn the art of self-government until they begin. We need not dwell on the absurdity of withholding from the greatest, the richest, and the most enlightened city in Asia the gift which has been bestowed on almost every petty town and village throughout Bengal, the North-West, and the Panjab. The absurdity is just as patent to Sir Richard Temple as to any body else; and it would surely be an easy matter for him to re-assure the rate payers by throwing overboard, or entirely recasting, a set of provisions which, on his own showing, would be found unnecessary in practice.

THE CALCUTTA Correspondent of the above journal says:

"The new Municipal Bill has been made the subject-matter of consideration at two important meetings on Saturday afternoon. The first, by the British Indian Association, where the speakers indulged at great length in an examination of the sections of the new Bill. As might have been supposed, sections twenty-two and fifty-eight, by which the local Government attempt to secure an absolute control over the acts of the proposed commissioners, were freely discussed and universally condemned. In my last letter I described with some minuteness the main provisions of the Bill, and am glad to find that my views are shared by the majority of the speakers European and Native, who addressed the meeting. The chairman of the meeting is plain spoken enough in his comments, and does not hesitate to brand the Bill as a delusion and a gigantic snare. The present Justices are for the most part men who have been appointed to the office on account of the weighty interests they represent in this city, and it is only too apparent that the present dissatisfaction with the conduct of municipal affairs, arises for the most part from the well-grounded feeling of irritation against the manner and extent of Government interference. The most able apologist for the Government scheme must acknowledge that the new Bill, if passed, practically leaves all the power in the hands of the authorities. The commissioners at best are mere puppets, controlled absolutely by supreme will. It is small consolation to be told that this power will only be used on rare occasions. The very fact of its existence, in its present arbitrary form, must in itself be a continuous cause of apprehension to the new commissioners, and cannot fail to paralyze their best efforts at independent action, while the first attempt at the exercise of such power would infallibly be a signal for a general resignation.

FROM THE report of Mr. Raymond, Commissioner of Mines for the United States, for the year 1874, it appears that the production of gold in America during the year, was five millions sterling, and that of silver nine millions sterling.

IT was rumoured at Singapore when the last mail left, that His Excellency Sir William Jervois, Governor of the Straits Settlements, has resigned. Is the Perak outbreak the cause of his resignation?

A WELL authenticated rumour has it that the Prince of Wales intends to join the noble army of Royal authors, and that he is keeping a journal of his travels in India, to be published in due course of time by a well-known London firm. The Journal, it has transpired, will consist of the Prince's own jottings, fresh from the Royal pen, as he has gone about. Though Dr. Russell will edit the book, the notes will undergo no substantial alteration.

AMONG the treasures lately brought to light at Pompeii is a silver altar, on which were deposited two silver cups and spoons, the latter of which are precisely similar in form to those now in use.

A FRIEND who visited the Sagur Mela this winter thus writes to us:

"The gathering of pilgrims and visitors at the mela was this year comparatively small and this paucity is accounted for by the apprehended scarcity of fresh water and available clear space on the beach. The police arrangements, were most efficient and satisfactory, the District Superintendent of Police being himself present. But what enhanced the tranquility of the place and the security of the crowd from lawlessness was the presence of a magisterial officer to dispose of petty cases of larceny and assault. The officer appointed to this work was Babu Grinder Nath Chatterjea Sub-Deputy Magistrate of Diamond Harbour. There was also a native Doctor who was sent out with a stock of medicines but the medical wants of a crowded melah were illmet by a single medical officer. There were 25 cases of cholera brought on, it is supposed, by exposure to the inclemencies of the weather and want of fresh-water.

SATURDAY, 19TH FEBRUARY.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY and Governor General has been pleased to confer upon Sri Lakshmi Chellayya, Zemindarni of Bobbili, in the Vizagapatam District, the title of "Ranee," as a personal distinction. This was the lady, who contributed Rs 40,000 to the Bengal Famine Fund.

WE ARE sorry to see a paragraph in the *Statesman* objecting in a bad spirit to the re-appearance of Babu Omeshchunder Dutt, late Vice-Chairman of the Justices, on the Police bench for the trial of municipal cases. The Babu by resigning his office has not certainly consigned himself to civil death. He is an active young man of considerable local knowledge, and it would be a great pity if he were to waste his time as the *Indian Daily News* says in the zenana. We are of opinion that he has not only been very properly invited to sit on the Police bench, but should also be asked to join the General Committee of the Justices, to which his intelligence and experience are sure to be very useful.

THE BEHAR HERALD gives the following description of the arrangements of the Hindu Hostel established at Patna under the recent orders of Sir Richard Temple. "The house is a large *pucca* building with a spacious compound, numerous out-houses and a garden, and is situated close to the College. The inmates have each to pay Rs. 2 a month for house-rent, and they make their own arrange-

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agents for their mess. The latter charge amounts to Rs. 6 per mensem, for "which each gets two pice worth of tiffin every day, and one average Hindoo meal morning and evening. Thus the total cost on account of lodging and boarding stands to each boy about Rs. 8 per month, a very moderate charge for the accomodation it affords." If the whole of the premises now partly occupied by the Calcutta Normal School be taken over by Government, a Hostel may be established in connection with it.

THE MORNING PAPERS announce that Mr. F. R. Cockerell having been appointed a Member of the Governor-General's Legislative Council, the following changes will be made in the Bengal Commissionerships:—Lord Ulick Browne will go to the Rajshahi and Kuch Behar Division; Mr. C. T. Buckland will be Commissioner of the Presidency Division; Mr. H. A. Cockerell will take the Burdwan Division; Mr F. B. Peacock will officiate again as Commissioner of Dacca. The arrangements are good. We heartily welcome back Mr. Horace Cockerell to the metropolis, where his head-quarters will be.

HER HIGHNESS the Begum of Bhopal has, it is stated, brought an action in the Bombay High Court against the G. I. P. Railway Company, to recover Rs. 64,655, for non-delivery of jewellery, gold and silver articles, and other property belonging to Her Highness and her followers, which were entrusted, in November 1872, to the defendants, as common carriers, to be safely carried from Bombay to Harda, and there delivered for the plaintiff.

THE ENGLISHMAN understands that Mr. Fitzgerald, barrister-at-law, a nephew and pupil of Sir Henry Thring, the well-known Parliamentary draftsman, has been offered the appointment of Secretary to the Bengal Legislative Council, with the promise of the reversion of the appointment of Secretary to the Government of India in the Legislative Department on the retirement of Mr. Whitley Stokes.

WE HAVE had for some time past lying on our table a neat little brochure printed in golden characters containing a poem of 26 stanzas on the advent of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales to India by Prosunnomoyee Devi daughter of the talented Deputy Magistrate of Krishnuggur, Babu Doorgadass Chowdry. As the production of a girl between 10 and 12 years of age it is we consider a very creditable performance.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London 10th February.—The correspondence relating to the purchase of the Khedive's Suez Canal shares was submitted to Parliament last night, and the debate thereon was fixed for Monday next. Austria, Germany, and Italy have signified their approval of the purchase in warm terms. Russia has not sent any despatches to England on the subject. England whilst deprecating any act of the Khedive in giving up the control of the Canal, has declined to become possessor of the Founder's shares.

11th.—The Government Merchants' Shipping Bill was read last night for the first time. It defines the responsibility of shipowners, and provides that seamen shall have a civil remedy. Surveys are to be continued, deck cargoes to pay tonnage due, and the load line clause in the temporary Act is made permanent. Mr. Flimsoll partly dissented, but regarded the Bill as a good framework. Lord George Hamilton, the Under-Secretary of State for India, reproduced the Bill to define the legislative powers of the Viceroy of India.

11th.—Sir Stafford Northcote, Chancellor of the Exchequer, replying to a question last night, stated that Mr. Cave's mission to Egypt had not yet terminated. Lord George Hamilton announced that an increase to the salaries of Roman Catholic Chaplains in India would be granted.

14th.—The new Bill brought forward by Government for the regulation of the ultimate tribunal appeals retains the appellate jurisdiction of the House of Lords. Two Judges will be created Life Peers, who will act as assessors. England, Russia, and America have agreed to support the steps taken by Germany at Pekin relative to the plundering of a steamer at Foochow.

15th.—Replying to a question from Mr Thomson Hankey this evening, the Postmaster-General, Lord John Manners, said that India will be admitted into the Postal Union on the 1st July next, and from that date the postage between England and India will be *via* Southampton six pence, and *via* Brindisi eight pence. The Royal Commission of Enquiry relative to the slave trade has been appointed:—Mr. Robert Morier, C. B., who was formerly Secretary of the British Legation at Frankfort, has been appointed British Minister at Lisbon in succession to Lord Lytton.

15th.—The debate on the purchase of the Suez Canal shares was held last night. Sir Stafford Northcote, Chancellor of the Exchequer, moved that a loan from the National Debt Commissioners should be asked for to pay for the purchase of the shares. Sir Stafford Northcote said that negotiations were proceeding for placing three English Directors on the Board of the Suez Canal Company, and that Mr. C. W. Wilson, Comptroller-General of National Debt Office, enters the service of the Khedive upon the motion of the Marquis of Hartington, seconded by Mr. Gladstone. The debate was adjourned until Monday next, Mr. Disraeli being a consentient thereto.

17th.—At a dinner in London yesterday, given by the Associated Chambers of Commerce, the Marquis of Salisbury, Secretary of State in the Indian Department, made a speech eulogistic of India. He adverted to the high position of India, stating that among the cherished interests of the country the promotion of industry and commerce were matters of life and death. He also dwelt upon the change in public feeling during the last few months, and dwelt upon the desire manifested for some definite aim in our foreign policy. The foreign policy of England, he said, centres more and more on India, whose people have resolved not to run the risk of tampering with countries through which the open road to India mainly depends.

18th.—THE PRIME Minister, in answering to several questions in the House of Commons last night, said that the choice of the new title was a prerogative of the Queen. Mr. Lowe and Mr. Forster both objected to the title "Empress" as despotic. The Merchants' Shipping Bill has passed its second reading. Mr. Jacob Bright has been elected Member of Parliament for Manchester.

St. Petersburgh 11th February.—The insurrection in the principality of Khokhand has been quelled the rebellious chiefs having surrendered to the Russians.

Pekin 9th February.—An imperial edict has been published in the *Pekin Gazette*, degrading Lee see Tahee, and ordering him to Yunanfoo to stand his trial.

Constantinople, 16th February.—The Sultan has issued a decree ordering the adoption of the Austrian scheme of reforms in Turkey, and granting an amnesty to those of the insurgents in Bosnia and Herzegovina who would return and be obedient to the Porte.

Penang, February 18th.—It is reported that two of Mr. Birch's murderers have been captured by friendly Malays, at Lambor, near Banda Baru. Their names are Sepatam and Gonda. The troops are quiet. Ex-Sultan Ismail and Raja Lila are being tracked, and their capture is considered probable in Qualla territory.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Annual Volume of Trade and Navigation for the Bengal Presidency for 1874-75. 2. Report on Tea operations in the province of Assam for 1873-74. 3. Report on the Excise Department in British Burmah for 1874-75. 4. Records of the Geological Survey of India Vol. VIII. Parts I and IV. 1875. 5. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal for December 1875, No. X. 6. The Students' Law Book, being the 2nd edition of a compilation of Acts and Regulations prescribed for the B. L. and Pleadership Examination. Revised and enlarged. Edited by Umesh Chandra Chuttopadhya B. L., Pleader Judge's Court, Hooghly. Published by, Messrs. Wyman and Co. 7. Datta Vansa Mala or a genealogy of the Dutts. Edited and published by Kedar Nath Dutt, Deputy Magistrate of Araria. 8. The Indian Nationality or Arya-Desh-Janata, by Pana Chand Anandji Parekh, Bombay. 9. A descriptive poem on the advent of H. R. H. The Prince of Wales to India, by Prosunno Moyee Devi. 10. Bisam Sumsya or the knotty riddle, a caricature in Bengali of the orthodox meeting at Sobhabazar. 11. Scottish Imperial Fire and Life Insurance Company's Almanack with pad for 1876. 12. Bunga Durshun for Aghran 1282 B. S. Vol. IV. No. 8. 13. Wyllie's Essays on the Eternal Policy of India. Edited by W. W. Hunter. London.

WE HEAR GOOD accounts of the Parsi Theatrical Company at Calcutta. The performances of Sakuntala and Indrasabha are highly spoken of. We are sorry to learn that the play-going portion of the native public do not sufficiently patronize the company.

WE HAD a welcome shower of rain last night. We hope it has been general.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1876.

A TEMPLE OF FAME.

LITTLE did we expect that Sir Richard Temple would succeed within so short a time in building a Temple of Fame for himself that will defy the blast of ages. When the future historian will chronicle the events of the Temple era of Bengal administration, and describe how the master-mind sought to teach the people under his sway the noble art of self-government, posterity will say not in the language of Lord Gough at the celebrated dinner to Lord Hardinge after the victory of Chillinwallah, but in all meekness, humility, wonderment and gratitude for favour done to their fathers—*mirabile!* Calcutta has been in the possession of the English more or less directly since they came to trade in the East, but what Governor had had the moral courage, magnanimity, or sincere love of the people to concede to them the glorious privilege of municipal self-government, the inestimable boon of the franchise, and the unsurpassable honor of sitting in solemn conclave in the civic corporation of the Town? And yet they are ungrateful enough not to appreciate this privilege, this boon, this honor. They have the audacity to look the gift horse in the mouth, and because it does not suit their fancy they spurn at it. Could there be blacker ingratitude than this? But the Governor is a loving father of the people. He sees that his children do not understand him, do not realize the profuse paternal affection he cherishes for them, and yet he is over-flowing with kindness to them. He knows their interests better than they, he understands their health better than they, he can judge better than they what food will suit their weak stomachs, and he has accordingly prescribed a regimen best adapted to them. Foolish children! they do not appreciate the paternal care and solicitude of their ruler! But posterity will do justice to him. The Calcutta Municipal Bill will be a Temple of undying Fame, which will remind distant generations of a Governor, who loved his people too well, but whom they, poor souls! did not adequately appreciate!

Reader, have we proposed a riddle to you? To tell you the truth we do not understand the epoch in which we live. We only wonder and wonder! As we turn page after page the history of municipal administration and legislation of Calcutta for the last six months we are filled with wonder. We wonder and ask within ourselves whether it is the same tender and skilled hand, that has been so patiently, cautiously, and knowingly feeling the pulse of national life for the last two years, has wrought this stupendous work. We wonder as we contemplate the persevering efforts of our Governor to conciliate the people, his laudable wish to win their good will and gratitude, his anxiety to further the cause of progress, and in the same breath his persistent struggle to alienate the sympathy and affection of all good men and true in the capital of the empire, in the centre of intelligence and public spirit, to crush all vestiges of self-respect and independence in them, and thus to fill them with disgust and discontent. We wonder as we see the remarkable unanimity of public opinion against the new Municipal Constitution of Calcutta, and the equally remarkable perverseness with which it is ignored. We wonder as we look on the surging wave of opposion to the Bill, and the sad attempt to resist it. We wonder as we watch the course of official opinion regarding the measure, and the pertinacity with which the head of the Government opposes it. We wonder as we contrast the courtesy and affability with which the Governor mixes with the people in social reunions with the studied insult he offers to their representatives in urging their respectful prayers and solicitations for the amendment of the Municipal Constitution. We wonder as we compare his loudly expressed desire to give the people of Calcutta the privilege of self-government with his cleverly designed effort to make it a negation. We wonder as we observe the heart of his scheme laid bare with his own hand, the object being none other as it would now seem than to provide a platform for a class "lower" than the middle class, and thus to drive away the higher classes from it. We wonder as we read that the said lower class being content to take the shadow, he will keep the substance of all municipal power in the hands of Government. After all this what can we say but that we wonder and wonder!

Sir Richard Temple has done his best to bring the Municipality into disrepute, and his proposed measure will fill the cup to overflowing. Could he not have prevented the municipal scandals of Calcutta, which have filled society with grief and disgust, if he had so wished, but has he not on the contrary directly or indirectly helped in the production of these scandals? People blame Sir Stuart Hogg, but we do not do so because we know that his fault has been, if we may call it a fault, that he has been too loyal to Government? And what could he do? He is a servant of Government and its representative in the corporation, and how could he go against the views and wishes of Government? He himself said at a meeting of the Justices that he was willing to take in Mr. Roberts as his deputy, if the Justices should so wish, but it should be remembered that there was the pressure from above, and he could not resist it. As regards the Municipal Constitution none knows better than he that it would be an unmitigated sham; he has said so in private as well as in public; he declared his opinion in open Council, but if the Government insisted upon it he could

not help it. He justly holds that if a "lower" class of society are to be brought to govern the town, they cannot be trusted with plenary powers, that in that case he must keep the power in his own hands, veiled through the Government, and that it is for the Government to square its account with the public as to how far the scheme proposed is calculated to satisfy their reasonable wishes and aspirations. If the Municipal Bill will keep away men, to whose counsel he would willingly bow, whose co-operation he would gladly seek, and whose support he would readily take, it is not his fault. It is Sir Richard Temple, who is solely and primarily responsible for the measure. And what is his excuse? He cannot say that the present system has *per se* broken down; if it has broken down, that has been entirely owing to the under hand manipulations of Government. If the Government had allowed the corporation fair play, if it had not sought to override the independent Justices by putting official pressure upon the frail and fragile portion of the tribe; if it had not sought to swamp them by appointing new men "between whom and the Government there was a community of sentiment and feeling," the existing system would not have broken down. And now that the Government has helped in breaking down the present Corporation, it is essaying to replace it by a constitution, which public opinion unanimously declares will be a greater sham than the present. Sir George Campbell went mad for "representative ryots," and his successor is touting for a class "lower" than the middle class to fill the municipal bench of Calcutta! This was literally what he said in reply to the deputation of the British Indian Association the other day. He remarked that there were men, whom he could not appoint to Her Majesty's Commission of the Peace, and yet they would do well as Municipal Commissioners. The middle class, he rightly observed, was the back-bone of society, and he was under an impression that that class was not represented in the present corporation. The Deputation at once replied that most of the men who composed the corporation belonged to what he called the middle class, and then he said that he wanted a class *lower* than the middle class. We donot know whether those whom he included in this remark would appreciate the compliment thus paid to them; whether they would relish the honor intended for them; whether they would admit that they are not fit to be Justices of the Peace and would therefore consent to be Municipal Commissioners. We are inclined to think with the gentleman, who remarked at the late meeting of the rate-payers at the British Indian Association, that Sir Richard does not always mean what he says. We do not believe that he really thinks that the men, whom he wishes to propitiate, are not sufficiently respectable to hold Her Majesty's Commission of the Peace. He may try to play one party against the other, and he may temporarily succeed, but he may rest assured that the man, who does not stand by a well-defined and righteous principle, but tries now to please this party and now that, will in the end succeed in pleasing none. Already we record with deep sorrow Sir Richard Temple has contrived to be the most unpopular man in Calcutta. Go to any society in Calcutta, and you will hear murmurs of deep discontent against him. The Europeans are simply disgusted. We have abundant evidence of this feeling, and we are sorry we cannot disbelieve it. The European public do not care to express their opinion regarding the Bill, simply because they have come to think rightly or wrongly that Sir Richard is incapable of giving them a good and honest measure. As for the natives they bow their heads in disappointment and amazement. Such is the Temple of Fame which Sir Richard Temple is building for himself!

We have said above that we wonder at the attitude Sir Richard Temple has assumed towards the Calcutta public, and we are lost in wonder. In his fondness for his pet measure he seems to have forgotten the usual amenities of public life. A most influential deputation of the British Indian Association waited upon His Honor on Thursday last to present the memorial adopted at the meeting of the rate-payers. It comprised the principal rate-payers of the town, who we may say own three-fourths of it. They have a most momentous stake in it, and they have been naturally moved to their innermost depths by the proposed measure. And what was the treatment they received at the hands of the Lieutenant Governor? They had forwarded a copy of the memorial three days previous, but the Lieutenant Governor had no specific reply to make. We have seen many deputations to the Governor General and the Lieutenant Governor, and read accounts of similar deputations to ministers in England, but we have never seen a single deputation, the spokesman of which was made to stand for nearly an hour while all others including the great man upon whom they waited were sitting, and cross-questioned while standing without being favoured with a formal reply. But this was exactly what Sir Richard Temple did. If he did not intend to give a formal reply, though this was an unusual course, we do not understand why he made Babu Degumber Mitter read the memorial or why he cross-examined him upon points, which had been fully set forth in it. The Lieutenant Governor asked the deputation what would they want, if the Government could not give an elective system under the conditions they had urged, and they at once replied that they would rather have a continuance of the present system than one which would be a greater farce. But if His Honor had read the memorial, he would have been saved the trouble of putting this question. Strange to say that while the Lieutenant Governor chatted about the different sections the amendment of which was prayed for in the memorial and invited the opinion of the deputation, His Honor did not condescend to express his own opinion upon a single question of principle. He evaded the questions of the union of the functions of the Chairman of the Justices and Commissioner of Police, of the regulation of Police expenditure, of water supply, of bustee improvement and the like. Of course he thanked the deputation for waiting upon him, and they must have been mightily pleased. They however left under an impression that perhaps His Honor would state his views in the Bengal Council, but they will be surprised to learn that His Honor did not deign to say one word at last Saturday's sitting by way of notice of the memorials adopted at the meetings of the British Indian Association and the League, or the Trades' Association's memorial. Sir Stuart Hogg simply moved the substitution of the word "fifty" in lieu of "hundred" for the qualification of candidates for election, and the omission of the "construction and maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries" from the list of additional purposes for municipal expenditure, though both the subjects had been moved by a native member of the Council and negatived at a previous sitting by the same official majority, which now passed them. Not one other of the suggestions contained in the three memorials was taken into consideration.

Such is the outcome of the agitation on the Calcutta Municipal Bill. Of course it is very disheartening, but our countrymen have one satisfaction —they have done their duty. Sir Richard Temple cannot say that he has had no means of knowing what the public think of the measure. However he may flatter himself with the notion that at least one section of the community represented by the League support it, but we shewed in our last by extracts from their memorial that though they ostensibly thank the Government for conceding the elective system, they really want the same "substantial" reform, to quote their organ, which the memorials of the British Indian Association and Trades' Association advocate. They do not want that the Government should have absolute control over the Municipality, but say as we said that it should exercise it through the High Court. Of course Sir Richard is not prepared to accede to that prayer, and he distinctly said so to the deputation of the British Indian Association. It will be thus seen that Sir Richard does not care a whit for public opinion. And yet he makes no end of professions to consult public opinion. Does he really think that the native community are a parcel of children, that they can be easily deluded with sweet words or bland smiles, that they are pleased with the baubles of *Rhotas* parties, evening parties, garden parties, of presidency at this meeting or that, inaugural address at this society or that, personal visit to this Raja or that, or kind attention or lift to this man or that, and that they care not for their material and vital interests? If he thinks so he is grievously mistaken. He may for a time have a following of a class "lower" as he expressed himself than the middle class just as his predecessor sought immortality by ferretting out "representative ryots and respectable faquirs," but he will we fear soon see that the Temple of Fame he is thus building for himself is as unstable as the house built on sand.

THE EXCHANGE QUESTION.

THE ENGLISHMAN is of opinion that "perhaps the most marvellous of all the suggestions that have been made in connection with the exchange question is one which appeared in the editorial columns of last Monday's *Hindoo Patriot*." We thank our contemporary for this kind opinion. But perhaps he will not "marvel" if we say that we know exactly what we "really asked." We were quite aware that silver is not at present a legal tender in England except in payment of small sums, just as our copper tokens are. But if the "shilling" could pass without interfering with gold, why not a larger silver coin, which would be equally current in England and India?

In suggesting a uniform silver currency for England and India we do not of course propose or wish that gold should be demonetised, nor do we want a violent change in the currency of the two countries. As for the double standard it is already partially in existence, and if a larger silver coin be introduced say of the value of the American dollar, we are not satisfied, so far as we can judge, that it would depreciate the value of gold.

Silver is falling daily, the last English quotation being 54 d. per oz. which shews a depreciation in its value of nearly 3 d. within 3 weeks; and there is no knowing how far it will recede yet. On the other hand gold is getting scarcer and consequently dearer. Taking silver for a commodity we do not think that it is at all unlikely that its present low price may induce speculators to come into the market and buy up the whole of what might be available or a main portion of it, particularly as the moderate rate of interest now ruling might offer a temptation to such speculation. It may be easily imagined that in such a case much of the gold now in the hands of banks and capitalists may be withdrawn, or may find its way into the continent of Europe or elsewhere not a little to the detriment of the interests of England. Should such a contingency arise, it might at least for a time arrest a further fall in the value of silver, and enhance that of gold, and the rate of interest would in all probability rise to check speculations.

It is true that the discoveries of new silver mines in various parts of the world and the consequent redundancy of silver have caused almost a panic among the bankers and other dealers in precious metals, but it should be borne in mind that such discoveries are not of daily occurrence. We remember that soon after the discovery of gold in Australia, its shipments reached Calcutta on the heels of one another, and the consequence was a rapid fall in its price to the extent of 2 to 2½ rupees per tola, but strange to say that it rose again within a month or six weeks, as most part of the importation was purchased on account of the native states of India. In the same way who knows that before long the price of silver may rally and the present glut may pass away. The enlargement of silver currency in the United Kingdom in the way recommended by us will tend to the absorption of a vast quantity of silver in both the countries, and restore confidence where there are now dismay and panic.

The legitimate medium of exchange between two given countries is goods, and in the event of the equilibrium of trade not being kept up, the difference is met by specie. Let us see how this principle is working in England. We regret to find from the last number of the *Statistical Reporter* published by the Government of Bengal, the receipt of which we acknowledged last week, that the condition of British trade,

we mean both Import and Export, is most disheartening, indeed as much as our own at the present moment. From an analysis of the London Board of Trade during 1875 it appears that "an improvement in the value of imported items has taken place in articles of food and luxury, while raw and unmanufactured articles show as a rule a considerable deficit." As regards exports from the United Kingdom the Board observe, "we have hitherto been unable to turn our attention to the state of the exports with more or less certainty of finding some compensation for any shortcomings of the other branches of our trade and commerce, but in this instance we are doomed to disappointment. As each succeeding month has passed by, the unfavourable balance has increased." For the earlier months of the year the explanation of diminished prices was deemed sufficient to account for this difference, but "from September it was evident that a decrease in bulk as well as price had set in in some of our principal staples. Thus cotton piece-goods fell off 10 per cent, jute manufactures 18 per cent. woollen yarns 20 per cent, and woollen cloth 7 per cent. Besides these there are scattered through the returns a considerable number of articles of export, which distinctly show that the reaction reached bulk as well as price; and this, with but slight variation, has been the position of affairs until the close of the year."

With such an authority before us, we cannot help remarking that the trade of Great Britain which once and that not long ago monopolized we might say the entire commerce of the world, is now lingering and exhibiting the worst of symptoms. The words "the unfavourable balance has increased," are sufficient to suggest all sorts of gloomy forebodings. This fact, and the "increase of the import of articles of food and luxury," are ominous enough, especially for a country whose chief resource is commerce. If matters do not mend, England we fear will soon arrive at a stage when she will have to meet the balance of trade now spoken of by gold now her only currency; and if there be an unimpeded drain of that metal, what can then save her from that inevitable consequence, "national impoverishment," which the *Englishman* justly dreads? For our part we venture to reiterate our humble opinion that a uniform silver currency is at this moment as much needed for the benefit of England as for that of India.

As we suspected things have come to a deadlock. The Secretary of State will not draw at a more ruinous rate of exchange. Our merchants here have ceased to remit the proceeds of their consignments from Europe for the same reason. We learn that some of them have taken to the expedient of remitting the funds in their hands in produce, the remnants of bulks already shipped off, and this at an unnatural price. Time will show what the result of such forced operations will be.

One word more. The *Englishman* thinks that a uniform silver currency for England and India such as we propose will impoverish the former. We have endeavoured to shew above that such is not likely to be the case; indeed, if there be "national impoverishment," it will be owing to national deterioration, for when "luxuries" begin to absorb the trade, it does not augur well for the country. But who has contributed to the impoverishment of India? Who has been draining her money, and drawing her pecuniary relations with the civilized world almost to a dead-lock? The answer is—England! Is it not therefore the duty of England to come to the rescue of poor India at such a juncture as this? If the interests of the two countries are identical as we are often told, are we to presumptuous in asking for the favor we have urged? We submit that we ask for nothing more than what the Government of India has conceded of its own accord to the Native States by legalizing a uniform coinage for British India and those States.

THE PRINCE'S PROGRESS.

THE London *Spectator* has a remarkable article on the progress of the Royal tour in India. The experienced writer in the London journal hits the real point in this royal pageant. The events of the last four months would seem to shew as if the royal visitor had been instructed to make more of the princes than the people of India. This was certainly a mistake. As the *Spectator* says: "So far from India being full of Princes, there are in British India—the India which concerns us directly, the India containing 200,000 millions of British subjects." "It is," says the writer, "most wise to guarantee the Princes of India against annexation, and to allow the Native States to offer careers to the ambitious, and lax control to the turbulent, and a truly native life to all natives, and it is most right to treat them with a courtesy the absence of which destroys their self-respect, but to think of them as the great figures in India, and their opinion as the one to which we should defer, is to mistake alike our position and our duties." "They should be treated with all courtesy, all lenity, and all justice, but our responsibility is not to them, but to the endless millions, whose conquest we must justify to Providence, to history and to our own characters, by just non-repressive, and vivifying Government. So far from the Prince of Wales' visit bringing these millions more vividly before English eyes, we fear its tendency is to move them farther away from our sight, to make Englishmen think only of men whom we were able to "mediatise" mainly because their subjects felt that British rule would remedy many evils." This is perfectly true. The Prince we cannot help saying has shunned the millions. The official policy has been to whitewash the country for the Prince's eye and the millions who are neither bedecked nor bejewelled were not allowed to approach the august presence. The writer continues: "It is hard enough to remember those swarming ants, as it is, though they supply our revenue, our Services, and our labourers, and if the local Government is encouraged by English opinion to forget them, it will be harder still. That Government, no doubt, tries to do its duty to them, but it needs English support to keep up sympathies the weakness of which is curiously manifested by a scene recorded in the despatches published in the *Times* this week." The only instance in which His Royal Highness took a part gratifying to the masses was when he consecreted the memorial to the native Sepoys who fought and bled in defending the Europeans in that crisis. The *Spectator* justly remarks: "If ever there were men on earth who deserved acknowledgment at British hands, the Sepoys who adhered to us in the Mutiny deserved it. They conquered, on our behalf, every temptation under which it was possible for fidelity to give way. If ever there were men whom it was policy to honour, they were the Sepoys who stood by us in Lucknow, keeping their military honour inviolate inspite of country, creed, and opinion,—and keeping it, too, some of them, for the reason which swayed the English noble when, dying for his King, he exclaimed, "I have kept the bird in my bosom!" Will it be believed that in Oude, so full of the memorials of our own fallen, there has been for twenty years no memorial of the fidelity of these men, and that it was left to Lord Northbrook—we believe, after vain remonstrances—to erect at his own expense the monument to their honour which the Prince last week inaugurated? It is the best thing we have heard of Lord Northbrook's doing, and the best warning to the English people to remember that, amidst all this affluence of Princes, elephants, jewels, and soldiers, we hear nothing of the innumerable people, by whom all this magnificence is maintained, on whose contentment rests our safety, and for whom we—otherwise mere conquerors—are responsible to God." The sympathising act of Lord Northbrook by commemorating the memory of the Sepoy heroes who fought in the crisis of '57 cannot be too highly praised. His Royal Highness also spoke gracefully on the subject. At Delhi the Prince drew enthusiastic applause from the native troops by his kind and gracious manner. But to the mass of Her Majesty's subjects "her dear son" has been more a name and an echo than a reality. This was the most remarkable in Bengal. We do not know whether His Royal Highness duly appreciated the importance of Bengal, instructed and guided as he has been by an ex-proconsul of Bombay. But the *Spectator* justly points out that Bengal has a political importance which many an Englishman from an unreasoning prejudice against the unfortunate Bengali do not apparently acknowledge. Bengal has no princes, no independent states, no ruling dynasties. "Bengal," says the *Spectator*, "in particular, is absolutely without the class; there is not one "Prince" left in it, and while we hold Bengal, all is safe, for the Treasury is solvent, and all other provinces can be regained. Those sixty millions of feeble folk, who till so industriously the richest soil on the globe, and never riot, and never make themselves manifest except by crushing all competition in the colleges, or when intellectual work has to be done, and who alone among the races of India, except the few Parsees, heartily acquiesce in our rule, though they do not cheer the Prince of Wales, and would not cheer a visible Avatar, furnish the true base of our power, and sometimes make Indians regret that we did not follow Clive's advice,—make the Kurumnassa our boundary, and turn Bengal, as we then should have done into the garden and granary and Unive sity of Asia." And yet Bengalis were completely thrown into the shade by the stars from the Native States, which temporarily occupied the social horizon of the capital on the occasion of the Royal visit. Indeed, wherever the prince has gone the millions have scarcely been noticed. This has not only been the mistake in the policy of the Prince's progress, but also in the message of the Queen in announcing to the Lords and Commons of England the visit of "her dear son" to her eastern Empire. If this is the moral of the Royal visit, India has not much to be grateful for in laying out vast sums of money in celebrating the Royal advent.

THE TRADE OF BENGAL.

ONE of the most interesting and important chapters of the last Administration Report of Bengal is that on the trade of Bengal. The total value of the trade of the several Bengal ports during the past three years was as follows:

	Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Orissa Ports.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1872-73...	47,895,931	534,009	259,116	48,709,056
1873-74...	50,137,031	476,791	589,846	51,203,593
1874-75...	53,738,214	378,461	798,389	54,915,064

The following table gives the total value of the exports and imports of Calcutta during the past three years:

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1872-73	29,908,937	17,986,994	47,895,931
1873-74	29,895,839	20,241,192	50,137,031
1874-75	28,628,262	25,109,952	53,738,214

The following statement shows the exports of the principal articles of trade from Calcutta to places beyond British India during the past three years, and the fluctuation of trade during the past year:—

Value of Export beyond British India.

	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.		
	£	£	£	£	
Opium ...	5,613,205	5,505,426	5,534,211	23,785	increase.
Jute ...	4,127,943	3,435,513	3,244,994	190,519	decrease.
Indigo ...	2,699,420	2,628,010	1,981,609	646,401	"
Hides and skins ...	1,815,557	1,757,891	2,033,995	276,104	increase.
Tea ..	1,507,581	1,730,266	1,905,832	175,566	"
Rice ...	1,685,170	1,352,290	1,048,556	303,734	decrease.
Oil-seeds ..	1,120,085	1,397,317	1,931,765	534,448	increase.
Raw silk ...	1,236,887	1,134,295	762,143	372,152	decrease.
Cotton ...	1,779,129	776,772	523,699	253,073	"
Gunny-bags,&c. ...	137,149	144,580	223,009	78,429	increase.
Saltpetre ...	528,012	459,125	491,338	32,213	"
Tobacco ..	74,504	94,756	184,272	89,516	"
Sugar ..	182,456	132,279	101,007	31,272	decrease.
India-rubber ...	143,691	115,754	96,620	19,134	"
Safflower ...	92,307	75,890	74,775	1,115	"
Bullion and specie ...	86,480	437,540	798,484	360,944	increase.

The most important articles of export, in the order of their value, including all the articles sent to both Foreign and Indian ports, are opium, jute, indigo, hides and skins, tea, rice, gunnies and gunnycloth, oil-seeds, raw cotton, sugar, saltpetre, betelnuts, lac, wheat tobacco, and India-rubber. The United Kingdom carries off the largest quantity of the exports, or about 36 per cent., except in the case of gunnies and betelnuts, of which Pegu and British Indian ports are the largest consumers. Excluding opium, China takes about 17 per cent., of the exports

mainly in the shape of raw cotton, saltpetre, manufactures of jute, and castor-oil. France takes about 4 per cent. of the total exports, consisting principally of saltpetre, tobacco, hides and skins, raw cotton, and lac. The Straits Settlements take manufactures of jute and betel-nuts; the Persian Gulf takes rice and indigo; Ceylon, rice, vegetables, oil, and jute; Mauritius, rice and saltpetre; Aden, rice, twist, jute, hides and skins, tobacco, and indigo. On the whole the prospects of the export trade of Bengal are not very cheering. Jute and Indigo shew a falling off, while in rice Bengal has a formidable competitor in British Burma.

The value of rice exported from Calcutta reached its highest point in the year 1864-65, viz. four and one-eighth millions sterling. Forty years ago its value was as low as £200,000, but it steadily increased, till in ten years it exceeded half a million. It then decreased; but twenty years ago, in 1855-56, it exceeded one million. For the next nine years there was a further steady increase. The trade then fell off again, but it retains the average of about two millions sterling. The proportion of rice that leaves Calcutta for Indian ports is enormous. It ordinarily amounts to between 150,000 and 200,000 tons. In 1864-65 it amounted to 290,000 tons; but immediately after the Orissa famine, it fell off in an equally extreme proportion. At least three-quarters of this amount go to Bombay, and some 30,000 or 40, 000 tons go to Madras. The exports to Indian ports were only 46,879 tons in 1873-74, and 60,632 tons in 1874-75. The Bengal exports in this respect form a very remarkable contrast to those of British Burmah, which province does not altogether export more than eight or ten thousand tons to Indian ports during the year. The English and European exports on the contrary are very small, not exceeding 50, 000 tons in the year, as against 400, 000 or 500,000 tons from British Burmah. In 1873-74 the exports were 46, 575 tons; in 1874-75 they were 25, 704 tons. The export to China is very indifferent in ordinary years. The port of Calcutta exports very little to the Straits Settlements, which are naturally supplied from more neighbouring localities. It exports largely to the Persian and Arabian Gulfs, some 30,000 or 40,000 tons. Calcutta and Chittagong combined supply Mauritius, Bourbon, and the West Indies with all their rice. Bengal also, upon an average, supplies half the rice, imported into Ceylon and the neighbouring islands. Bengal rice finds its way wherever Bengal coolies emigrate, and no other rice seems able to compete with it in the market. In ordinary years Burmah does not export one single ton of rice to the Mauritius. The rice exported from Calcutta is divided broadly into three qualities table rice, ballam, and monghy. Of these qualities table rice is of course the best. All parts of Bengal and Behar also supply their quota of table rice, though it is believed that the districts of Northern Bengal ordinarily supply the largest proportion. Ballam is mostly Backergunge and Eastern Bengal rice. To the United Kingdom the exports in the largest proportion are of table rice; and similarly to Bombay and Australia, where the rice is intended, in the first instance, as food for Europeans, the rice exported from Calcutta is table rice. To the Mauritius, however, the exports are ballam and moonghy, being in the proportion of 150 tons of ballam and 75 of moonghy to 15 tons of table rice, and the same to the Bombay and the West Indies. To the Straits, to Java, to the Maldives and Laccadives, to Ceylon, to Madras, and the Coromandel Coast and to the Gulfs, the export is almost entirely in ballam rice. Rice is the staple produce of Bengal, but the trade in it has become almost stationary. The only branches of export trade, which are flourishing are hides and skins, oil-seeds and tea. As regards the jute export the increase in it implies a diminution in the two stocks of the country, which is not desirable. With regard to the second it is the only prosperous branch of our exports.

Oil-seeds, divided into the main heads of lin, poppy, teel, mustard, and rape, show taken together, an increase of 38 per cent. in the exports of 1874-75. In the previous year there had been a large increase also. The facts thus fully bear out the anticipations expressed by the Board of Revenue in the last year's report regarding the revival of the seed trade. Linseed is exported to an extent of about five times as large as the other four kinds of oil-seeds put together. The value of the exports of linseed now exceed one million sterling. In 1840 the value was about two lakhs. In 1851 it was a quarter of a million, in 1862 it was three-quarters of a million, and in 1864-65 it exceeded a million. The trade then slightly declined, but in 1870-71 it reached its highest point of one and three-fifths millions. The main consuming countries are North America and the United Kingdom: and Calcutta has a strong competitor in Russia in exporting to both of these countries. Poppy-seed showed also in 1873-74 a large increase, and in 1874-75 the value of the exports amounted to twenty-two lakhs; or a further increase of 34 per cent. Great Britain takes about three-quarters of the whole quantity exported, and France nearly all the rest. The Collector of Customs states that the seed is used largely in mixing with olive oil, and also for lighting purposes and for mixing with paint. Mustard-seed and rape-seed and teel-seed show also an increase. The figures of the export of mustard-seed show most extraordinary fluctuations year by year: in one year the trade will almost cease, and in the next amount in value to over ten lakhs of rupees. It appears that the mustard and rape-seeds, which were formerly distinct articles of trade, have of late years passed through the Calcutta markets under either name, much at the caprice of the trader.

JUDICIAL REFORM.

WE reproduced last week a considerable portion of the minute of Sir Richard Temple on judicial reform. Briefly stated his suggestions are as follows:

I.—Zillah or District Benches, consisting of the District Judge and the Subordinate Judge of each district, with the same territorial jurisdiction as is now possessed by those officers; or.

II.—Divisional Benches, in which the Judges will be selected members of the Covenanted Civil Service and selected Native Judges, with jurisdiction extending over a division comprising several districts, and with power to hear the said appeals from every district within the division.

III.—Divisional Benches constituted as above, and with the same finality as regards their decisions up to Rs. 200, but with additional power of hearing appeals up to Rs. 5 000 in value, with the proviso that in cases above the value of Rs. 200, a second appeal be allowed to the High Court.

We confess we are inclined to support the last proposition. The first scheme has one advantage, which the other two do not possess, we mean the easy accessibility of the court, but the constitution of the court would necessarily make the Native Judge dependant upon the European Judge, for if the appellate bench be composed of district judge and subordinate judge, while holding their substantive appointments, the relation of the latter with the former will be as a matter of course that of a dependant, and in such a relation there will not be that perfect freedom of the judicial mind, which is essential to a pure and impartial administration of justice. Sir Richard Temple says, "it is feared that the Native Judges so placed would not venture to differ from their superior officers, on whose reports their prospects of future advancement might partly depend. I believe that this objection would in practice soon disappear; when Natives are placed in an independent position, as these Native Judges in the Benches would be placed, they would immediately evince the requisite independence of thought and opinion." But the misfortune is that the native judges would not be placed in an independent position, if they should continue to hold the office of subordinate judge as well. The second scheme is good so far as it goes, but not sufficiently wide in scope. The third is by far the best. It is the old scheme of the Provincial Court of Appeal. Sir Richard Temple proposes a salary of Rs. 3,000 for the Civilian Judge and of Rs. 1200 for the Native Judge. We would raise the last to Rs. 1,500, or half of what his covenanted brother would get. The powers of the two being co-ordinate there would not be that sense of dependance in the Native Judge, which is inseparable from the first scheme. The financial question is by far the most important, but Sir Richard says: "It is found that the work devolving on these Benches would be represented by 6,316 appeals per annum, and the cost of deciding these cases under present arrangements is made out to be Rs. 1,46,667 per annum. This amount represents the salaries of a certain number of District Judges (European) and Subordinate Judges (Native,) and it would be saved by the establishment of the Divisional Benches. There would be no difficulty in effecting the reduction if the Benches were established, and in arranging the local details. Then the gross annual cost of the Divisional Benches, according to the salaries which I have suggested, would be Rs. 4,03,200. If from this there were deducted the present cost, Rs. 1,46,667, which would be saved, then there would remain the net cost of Rs. 2,56,533. Against this net cost, however, there would be set the saving in the High Court." The only hitch in this scheme to our mind is as to the effect of the decision of the Court in case of difference of opinion between the judges. There being two judges, a division would place the Court in an awkard position. There are two remedies suggested. Either that the senior judge should rule, or that the decision of that judge should prevail who might concur with the decision of the Court below. To either alternative we have serious objections. Is seniority to be determined by the length of service or by rank as regulated by salary? If the former, it would not comport with the dignity of the civilian judge; if the latter, experience would go for nothing, and the result might not improbably be frequent concurrence of the Civilian Judge with the Court below. But the difficulty might be obviated, if it were ruled that in case of difference of opinion a reference should be made to the High Court, whose decision shall be final. The prospect of such a reference might prevent frequent difference of opinion.

We are glad to observe that the most experienced judicial officers support the last scheme. Sir Richard Temple says: "The third or last alternative is probably more entirely free from objection than any of the others, and is, as I gather, the one most calculated to obtain the concurrence of some of our best judicial authorities. It is earnestly to be hoped that one or other of the alternatives may meet with the approval of the legislature. By one or other of them the requisite limitation upon second appeals would be imposed; better hearing and deciding would be provided for first appeals; finality of appeal would be obtained nearer to the homes of the people; appellate tribunals would be established in the interior of the country, more likely to command their confidence; the status, the dignity, independence, the prospects of the Native Judiciary, would be raised; the Native Bar would be strengthened; and the administration of civil justice generally would be brought more into harmony with the circumstances and the requirements of the provinces under the Government of Bengal."

We admire the earnestness with which Sir Richard Temple has taken up the question of judicial reform. It is a question which has long engaged the attention of Government, but it has not hitherto received solution because of the financial bugbear. But Sir Richard shews that the expense will not be very great, while we are satisfied that the whole of the additional expense may be met by a reduction of the number of Judges of the High Court. The establishment of Provincial Courts of Appeal on the plan proposed by Sir Richard Temple would greatly reduce the business of that Court, and would necessarily admit of the reduction of the number of Judges of that Court.

EXECUTION OF DECREES.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE'S minute on the new Civil Proceedure Code contains two important suggestions. Referring to execution of decrees Sir Richard says, "in no respect have I heard more frequent complaints than in this." "It has been said," he observes, "even by judicial authorities, that it is often of comparatively little use to obtain a good and just decree, inasmuch as it cannot be executed, and that the hardest troubles of a successful litigant begin from the time that he tries to execute his decree. However great may be the improvements made in the administration of civil justice in Bengal

(and I for one believe them to be very great), it must be admitted that the branch relating to execution of decrees remains inefficient, and that if corruption has for the most part been banished from the Courts themselves, still it survives largely in the department for execution of decrees and I earnestly recommend that the present opportunity be taken for a thorough and practical reform in this matter." Sir Richard is quite right. The execution of decrees is a blot on the judicial administration. In analysing the defects of the present system Sir Richard says: "The present faults seem to me to arise from the work of execution being left to the Courts of first instance who try the suits, which are for the most part the Moonsifs' Courts. This work is mainly of an administrative character, requiring promptitude vigilance, smartness, and practical aptitude for its due performance. These qualities are not exactly the characteristics which most distinguish our junior Native Judges; their good qualities, which are numerous, lie in a different direction. Under existing circumstances, we manage to give them a good judicial training, but we cannot reckon on being able to superadd administrative training. But even on the supposition that they improve in the last-named respect, still they have hardly time to attend to difficult miscellaneous business (such as the execution of decrees) while they are sitting on the Bench and hearing suits from morning till evening." Again, "if they succeeded in finding some time for this business, they must of necessity leave the details to their ministerial officials. Now these officials receive but small pay, which we cannot afford to augment, and it is manifestly inexpedient to entrust such work to low-paid men." We are disposed to agree with the latter part of Sir Richard's remarks than the first. It is not that the Munsifs are not sufficiently prompt, vigorous, or vigilant, but because they have not sufficient time to attend to ministerial duties, which they necessarily leave to the amla. Corruption and harassment of parties are the necessary consequences of the present system. Sir Richard Temple suggests the following remedy. He proposes to establish in each district under a District Judge a department for the execution of all decrees in that district. This department would be worked by a selected and responsible official immediately under the District Judge and at the Judge's head-quarters. To this official would be referred all applications for execution of decrees. It would not be at all necessary that the execution department should execute all decrees actually at the head-quarters; on the contrary, it would send orders through the judicial authority nearest to the spot where the execution was to be made—that is where the person or property, real or personal, might happen to be. All orders generally might run in the name of the District Judge. The constitution of such a department says Sir Richard would obviate the complaints that are sometimes made, to the effect that property put up for sale in execution of decrees is not always disposed of to the best advantage. Such property might be calculated to sell well, if offered at places where purchasers or bidders from the outside were abundant, would be sold at the head-quarters of the district. Such property as might sell, if offered to persons who had a local interest in it, would be sold at the Court nearest to the locality, or on the spot.

We venture to think that this sort of centralization will not remedy the evil complained of. What is wanted is the strengthening of the establishment of the Munsifs. Sir Richard Temple seems to be fully alive to the necessity of this improvement, and makes some pertinent remarks regarding local investigation and examination of accounts. He thus refers to the Ameens, who conduct this ministerial work. "The 'commission,' that is, the "Ameen,' becomes either virtually the Judge, or else a potential person in the determination of the dispute; at the least, quasi-judicial functions devolve on him. And I understand that once appointed to investigate a matter, he does in practice become the deciding authority. Now, I deem it my duty to state that these ameens are not, in the present circumstances of Bengal, fitted to exercise these important functions, and that the too frequent delegation of such functions to them detracts seriously from the character and the trustworthiness of the administration of civil justice. They are poorly paid, they have no prospects; and under these circumstances it is superfluous to add that their general repute is not all that it should be, and that evils which have been gradually reduced or extirpated in the other branches of the administration of justice still survive in this branch. I say this in general terms only, without wishing to disparage any individuals among them who may be good and capable. The appointment of them is in this wise: When applications are made for the appointment of these commissions, fees are charged for the expenses of the ameens. From the funds thus raised the Ameens are paid by fixed salaries. The rates of the fees are fixed by the High Court; the men are appointed by the District Judges. The number of ameens in each district and the salaries to be paid to them, are fixed by the local Government—*vide* Act XII of 1856. The average of salaries of ameens in Bengal is less than one-third of the salary of the lowest grade of Native Judges, and is inadequate for the responsible and difficult duties they perform. The local Government, however, cannot improve the salaries, because the fee fund does not admit of it. At present there are rules made by the High Court for the appointment of these ameens, and of late years they must have risen in character and in ability; but they are not reckoned as Native Judges: they are not indeed qualified as such, nor are they eligible under the existing rules to be appointed moonsifs. Doubtless the local Government might, in concert with the High Court, do much to improve the position and prospects of these men; but at the best such officials could never be converted into Native Judges. What is really wanted is, that these men should be dispensed with and their places filled by additional moonsifs. Then, the work done by the commissions of local investigation would be avowedly and ostensibly what it already is really judicial work, and there would be no further need for provision in the law for such commissions." We entirely agree. Sir Richard proposes the appointment of additional munsifs for the performance of this work. He remarks: "The provisions would be retained in the law for charging fees to the parties at whose instance or for whose benefit the local investigations were ordered. It would be necessary to raise the rate of fees for the salaries which would be paid to the additional moonsifs as compared with the present ameens. The financial aspect of the case can be considered separately. The fact is, that the work done on such commissions ought to be done by the Judges themselves as an essential part of their duties, and by none else. If the work should take our Native Judges away from their court-houses, and compel them to visit the scenes of disputes, that would be a beneficial consequence, would improve the training of the Native Judiciary in practical matters, and would augment popular confidence in the dispensing of justice." We would call the additional munsifs, Assistant Munsifs, and charge them with the quasi-judicial functions of holding local investigation and examination of accounts, and the ministerial duty of executing decrees. If these Assistant Munsifs be appointed with the prospect of promotion to the judicial service, we feel confident that many law graduates would be willing to take the lower appointment on say Rs. 150 per month. The financial question is not a serious one inasmuch as the process service fund is sufficiently productive. As for holding the sale in particular cases at the head-quarters of the district that object may be attained by vesting either the Munsif or the District Judge with due discretion.

THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

THANKS to the energetic exertions of Mr. Buckland this project has proved a decided success. There are over 150 subscribers of all sums from Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 20, the total amounting to nearly 2¼ lakhs. It affords us great pleasure to be able to state that by far the larger portion of this amount has come from native gentlemen, with their usual liberality and some more handsome donations are expected. The tickets are being distributed and can be had on application to the Honorary Secretary. The main roads at the gardens will be finished by the end of this week, and many small footpaths have been made. An island will be made in the large piece of ornamental water for the waterfowl and a serpentine piece of water is being prepared to beautify the grounds. The water-supply of the gardens has been carefully considered, two objects being kept in view. (I.) to keep the tanks and lakes as full as possible. (II.) to provide fresh water for the animals. The deer paddocks are quite ready for the reception of any number of specimens; they are already occupied by a lot of spotted deer, sambew, hog deer, barking deer, and mouse deer, nilgai, black buck, gazelles; already there have been two domestic occurrences in the gardens, a mouse deer and a spotted deer having been born. There are four bears on the premises, one from Cashmere, another a honey bear from China, and two country-bears. There are 2 leopards now in the dens, very fierce, presented by Khajah Ahsanoollah Khan Bahadur, and there are more young leopards coming down from their temporary quarters at Barrackpore. His Excellency the Viceroy has put also part of his collection at the disposal of the committee, and they will be transferred as soon as accommodation is found for each animal.

There are several monkeys—a hunooman and two oollooks, a four-horned sheep and a goat from Zanzibar.

The pleasant house is quite ready and is full of specimens of birds of beauteous plumage, the menald, golden, and silver pheasants, some rare partridges sent by the Raja of Hill-Tipperah, &c. The arrangements in this house for the birds are complete and very neat; roosting place, and the grass in front, and the clear running water, all combine for the comfort of the birds. A larger house of a similar pattern is fast rising in front of the road (from Zerat Bridge to Belvedere); a very handsome entrance lodge of a new style of architecture has been designed by Major Mant and will be immediately begun. The establishment of keepers, assistant keepers, bheestees garden coolies, and durwans has been entertained, and are all in working order; most of them live on the premises in the few house, that remain from the old bustees. Mr. J. C. Parker, late of the P. and O. Company, has been temporarily appointed Director on trial, and pending the receipt of answers to the references made by the Committee to scientific men in Europe. The 'Hermitage' which H. H. the Maharaja of Vizianagram K.C.S.I., bought from Col. M. Turnbull more than a year ago, has been disposed of by him to the Committee of the Gardens on terms very honorable to both sides, and will be used as a residence for the Director, the greater part of the compound being taken into the zoological gardens. The advantages of having the Director residing on the spot are obvious, as minute and constant supervision is essential. We trust that the Director will prove himself worthy of the confidence placed in him and will give his full energy to the development of the Gardens. Mr. Schwendler is continually on the ground settling details for the management of the animals and the Secretary is indefatigable in all matters of correspondence. In fact the development of the Gardens now depends on the speed with which the P. W. D. can be induced to work instead of their ordinary rate of progress. We are sorry to hear that some delay is occurring in the payment of some of the donations promised, the large donors should show a good example in this respect by paying up in full. Gentlemen, who have got their tickets and wish to inspect the works in progress, (should take the tickets in their pockets) as the gardens are not yet open to the public. We hope that the Committee will put up good rest-houses for native visitors and will lay out the shrubbery just before the rains to give the plants the best chance of growing.

[COMMUNICATED]

THE RENT QUESTION.

II.

THE LAND TENURES.

WE proceed next to examine our land tenures. We think three principal divisions will fairly comprise all of them commencing from below the Zemindari tenures *i. e* those which are held immediately under the Government:

I. Permanent tenures; tenable for ever and at a fixed invariable rental. The vernacular name *Maurasi-*

Makarari fairly denotes their character. They are essentially of the same nature with the Permanent Zemindari tenure created by Lord Cornwallis and also with the Istemarari and Makarari tenures mentioned in the earlier regulations.

II. Heritable tenures, transmissible from generation to generation but held at variable rates. The name *Maurasi Gur Makarari* we think, fairly represents their character to ordinary men connected with Zemindari business.

III. Ejectable tenures *i. e.* those which terminate after a definite period, the shortest being one harvest or one year, in which case the tenures are recognised as *ticca* or *otbundi* ones. The cases in which these tenures extend over (1) two or more years or (2) one or more lives—be they of the Zemindar or the ryot—will be noticed below.

Our chief concern at present is to establish that the heritable tenures have existed in this country at all times and independently of the provisions of the Rent Law with regard to occupancy rights.

Before we proceed any further we must beg leave to state once for all that the written documents exchanged between the land-owning and the cultivating classes do not as a rule fairly represent the intentions of the parties or even the exact nature of the contracts made between them.

In order to understand the real nature of those tenures which we mean our class No. 2 to comprehend, we shall have to look to the usual course of Zemindari business and the motives which actuate the parties concerned.

Without entering upon the vexed question regarding the property in the soil we shall simply ask whether the zemindars have not created heritable tenures when they might easily have formed instead only ejectable or *otbundi* tenures?

To arrive at a conclusion upon this question as to the growth and origin of what we call the heritable tenures, we ought first of all to observe the distinguishing features of the *ticca* or *otbundi* tenures or of any other ejectable tenures which may be in existence.

In the *ticca* or *otbundi* tenure there is an explicit understanding with the tenant that his tenancy will terminate at the end of the year. There is never any mistake as to the terminable character of this tenure. When therefore a tenure cannot be classed as *ticca* it must be either a life-tenure or one for a specified period exceeding one year; and if it is none of these, it must be one which by implication at least, is transmissible from father to son. As a matter of fact life-tenures are almost unknown and *miyadi* tenures tenable for two or more years exist only on paper.

Let us look into the matter a little more narrowly. The zemindari business of this country is not concerned at all with actual cultivation. A zemindar derives his income, not directly from the produce of his land, but from the rents paid by his tenants. He may have some khamar or nij-jote lands but that has nothing to do with his ordinary business as a zemindar. Hence he does not as a rule care whether it is A. B. and C or X, Y and Z who hold his lands in tenancy. If all his lands are tenanted and all the tenants pay their rents in full, he is satisfied. Besides the business of collecting rents, his only other concern is to raise the rents consistently with his best interests. Viewed in this light there can be no earthly reason why he should not rack-rent his lands, but as a matter of fact he does not do so. Immemorial custom has kept him satisfied with what has been called the prevailing rate, the pergunnah rate—*gram dustoor* &c. Hence to raise this rate is also an important part of his function. The usual process for this is *Jamabandi*. So long as an estate is not subjected to a fresh jamabandi, all tenants *new or old* pay the same uniform rate of rent. Hence arises the fact that a zemindar has no occasion whatever to limit the tenancy of his ryots to any definite period. That is to say, it is for this reason that life-tenants and temporary tenants are in point of fact unknown in this country. The so-called *miyadi* settlements are simply nominal, for the zemindar never seriously means to re-enter upon his land when the period is over and that for the best of reasons viz., that he would still be forced by custom to re-let his lands at the old rate.

Whence then could the *ticca* and *otbundi* tenures arise? Before we discuss this point we beg leave to state that we are not quite positive as to the distinction between these two names. However, these tenures arise in two or three ways:

When a hereditary tenant sublets his lands, it is upon this kind of tenure; the sub-tenant is ejectable at the will of the superior tenant; he pays a higher rate of rent and it is possible too that there is no principle of uniformity observed with regard to the rates paid by the sub-tenants. Again, when the zemindar cannot find a tenant to accept a vacant tenure at the prevailing rate, he may be forced to let it be held at a reduced rental till he finds a suitable offer. In these cases the temporary arrangement is called by the name *otbundi*.

Further, when from any strong opposition raised by his ryots or owing to any other circumstances, the zemindar lets out a vacant holding at a higher rate than the one prevailing, the tenure may be called *ticca* or *otbundi*. But in all these cases, there is never any uncertainty as to a mutual understanding between the *ticca* ryot and his superior landlord that the former is ejectable at the call of the latter.

We consider that this definite understanding, coupled with the fact, that for the purposes of ordinary zemindari business there is no occasion to create a temporary or a life-tenant,—constitutes the real basis of a title for the generality of our ryots to hold on from father to son. And this we say, is quite irrespective of the provisions of the Rent Law about the right of occupancy.

Apart from all our arguments the simple fact is patent to all, that we have in this country a numerous body of ryots who have in practice always transmitted their property from father to son. Whether the zemindars had or had not the power as well as the right to convert them into tenants-at-will or to keep them in that condition may be disputed, but that they have not so treated them is undeniable Having for such a long time allowed them a heritable right, it would now be too late to ignore their existence as a class of hereditary ryots. The real dispute however is not as to the existence of such a class, but with regard to other concomitant rights which are necessarily connected with that of hereditary succession. But the existence of this class being admitted, it must always be open to question, whether a ryot does not belong to it, notwithstanding the written terms of his lease.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE ARE requested to announce that His Honor the Lieutenant Governor will deliver the presidential address at the Social Science Association at the Town Hall on Wednesday next at 9 P. M.

AT LAST Saturday's sitting of the Bengal Council Mir Mahomed Ali took his seat as an additional member. The Calcutta Municipal Bill was again considered in Committee of the whole Council and a few unimportant amendments were made. The Bill will be passed next Saturday. The Mofussil Municipal Bill was also considered in Committee of the whole Council.

WE HEAR complaints on all sides that the streets of Calcutta are not properly watered. Some of them are not watered at all, while others are watered only once a day, and the dust consequently is very great. This complaint refers chiefly to streets in the northern division of the town. The Budget provides a grant of Rs. 40,000 for the proper watering of the streets.

WE ARE sincerely sorry to record the death at Rome on the 15th January, of Mr. W. S. Atkinson, Director of Public Instruction, Bengal. Mr. Atkinson, says a morning contemporary, was a Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge, and took his degree in 1843. He was 26th wrangler. He came out to India as Principal of La Martiniere, Calcutta, in December 1854, and was, on the 9th May 1860, appointed Director of Public Instruction. He was 55 years old at the time of his death. Mr. Atkinson had been greatly shaken, when he left for Europe this time last year. Mr. Atkinson will be long remembered as the most staunch advocate of liberal education in Bengal.

THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAMS on the Exchange question were received from England last week:

London, 14th February—IN the House of Commons this evening, Lord Hamilton replying to a question of Sir Patrick O'Brien, said that it is not intended to alter the currency of India on account of the depreciation in the value of silver.

15th.—Lord George Hamilton, replying to a question from Mr. C. Beckett-Denison, said that it was not intended to alter the present system of drafting Council bills on India.

Is masterly inactivity then to be the policy of the Marquis of Salisbury on this vitally important question? The *Pioneer* says that a despatch has been received by the Government of India, announcing the rate of exchange that has been fixed for financial transactions between the Imperial and Indian Government for the year 1876-77. With the concurrence of the Lords of the Treasury, the rate adopted is 1*s.* 9¼*d.*

THE ANNUAL distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Oriental Seminary took place on Saturday last, Mr. Justice Phear, patron of the institution, presiding. His Honor the Lieutenant Governor was also present. The spectators were greatly pleased with the recitations of some young boys, and the gymnastic performances of a band of well-drilled youths. The institution is in a flourishing condition, and the annual report of the Committee bears abundant testimony to it. Mr. Justice Phear delivered an address in the course of which he descanted on the merits of Dr. Sircar's Science Association and urged the necessity of teaching physical mathematics in the colleges, which should act as feeders to the Science Association.

WE ARE sorry that a morning contemporary does grievous injustice to Mr. H. L. Dampier in connection with his legislative labors. We believe there is not a more honest man in the Bengal Council or we may say in the Bengal Civil Service than Mr. Dampier. He is a man of strong opinions and does not hesitate to express them strongly, but he is always open to conviction. He has often been found to modify his own opinions whenever the opposite views put forth are supported by good facts and arguments. He makes no distinction between Natives and Europeans, and if he finds truth and logic on the side of a native he readily embraces them without for a moment thinking of the source from which they may come. It is true that from his position he considers himself bound to support the Government view of the measures brought in, but individually he not unfrequently sympathises with the non-official view. He has a keen sense of justice, and we can say from personal experience that there is pleasure in working with him.

WE STATED the other day that the collection of statistics has been made an engine of oppression in Orissa. We now learn that the Magistrate of Balasore has commenced to fine the landholders who refuse to sign an *ekrarnama* or agreement to file the returns required. There is no law for enforcing such an *ekrarnama* and yet the fine has been imposed for non-execution. The Government can under the law appoint putwaris if the landholders refuse, but the law we believe gives no power to the Magistrate to fine them. Let the zemindar execute an *ekrarnama* and he will be bound by it. We have already shewn how impracticable it is for the landholders to file some of the returns called for from the Board of Revenue, and we do hope that the Government will remedy the hardship, trouble, and annoyance which the Board's circular is producing.

IT IS said that the Government has invited the leading members of the Native community to form a Committee for the establishment of an Asylum for the blind and incurable. The object is good, and no man with a spark of fellow-feeling in his breast can refuse to sympathize with it. But is an institution of the kind wanted in Calcutta and is there a good prospect of obtaining funds at this time? The Government has agreed to give the land, and the building it is estimated may cost a lac and a half. Where is the money to come from? The subscription-taxation as we call it has become so heavy that those who are usually called upon to pay are groaning under the burden. It would be shameful if the Government again puts pressure for the levying of a new cess, for it is nothing else. As for the object of the institution, it is now practically met by the District Charitable Society. It supports the destitute of the city, who include the class for whom the Asylum is intended. The Dwarkanath Tagore's fund of Rs. 500 a month is intended solely for the blind. Not a few of the paupers supported by the Society suffer from some infirmity or ailment or other, which is practically incurable, and if the object be to provide a house for some of them—all of them wont go to an Asylum—that object may be subserved by adding some wings to the asylums of the District Charitable Society. We

are sorry to say that that Society, which does real good to the town, is not sufficiently supported, and we are of opinion that instead of frittering away money upon new institutions for *nam ka wasta*, it would be much better if all the resources of the town were concentrated upon it. We may remark that the native poor, who are really helpless, are the middle class poor, who cannot do menial work or beg in the streets and whose number is daily increasing, and if any thing could be done for them, a real service would be done to the cause of humanity. But it is not wise to found institutions, which, without helping those who from their position are utterly helpless, would tend to dry up the sources of private charity.

WE ARE EXCEEDINGLY glad to learn that His Honor the Lieutenant Governor has reconsidered the proposal for the abolition of the Calcutta Normal School, and consented to allow the school to remain in Calcutta, with the services of Babu Gopal Chunder Bannerjea retained as head-master. Already the rumour of the proposed abolition has greatly affected the Government Patshalla, which is incorporated with it, many parents having removed their boys from an institution, the stability of which was uncertain, and we would therefore urge the necessity of early notifying that the Government has no intention to abolish the school in order to prevent further defection.

IT IS STATED that the Bombay Revenue Jurisdiction Bill is to be passed into law with the addition of a section "empowering Revenue officers to apply to the Civil Courts in case of doubt or difficulty." We do not understand the drift of the new section. If the Revenue officers are more fitted to grapple with the revenue questions than the Civil Courts, why should the latter be invoked to assist in cases of difficulty? It implies then that the ends of justice will be better subserved by giving an appeal to the Civil Court at the discretion of the Revenue officer. If so, why not be consistent, and give the Civil Court legitimate jurisdiction. The *Bombay Gazette* remarks:

"It is, therefore, fair to suppose that the object of the Section is simply to delude the public by a pretence of reserving jurisdiction to the Civil Courts in doubtful revenue cases, while in fact the intervention of the Courts will depend on entirely the pleasure of the Revnue Officers, who will first of all have the right to say what cases are doubtful, and then the right to dispose of them without going to the Courts if they choose to do so. Such an illusory concession would be quite worthy of the genius of a Government which invented the celebrated concession of a duty on long stapled cotton for the purpose of deceiving the men of Manchester. The low cunning which stoops to ridiculous tricks of this kind, in the vain hope of misleading the public, is evidently regarded at Calcutta as statesmanship of a high order; and the Government of India no doubt sincerely believes the people of the Bombay Presidency will be fools enough to receive as a substantial boon the mockery of a concession now offered to them by the authors of the Revenue Jurisdiction Bill. We only wonder that the Government should even take the trouble to make any show of being influenced as legislators or administrators by public opinion. They can do exactly what they like, and there is nothing to prevent them from passing the Jurisdiction Bill in its original form. What matter a few violent leading articles in the newspapers, a few piteous murmurs from the victims of the zeal of able Revenue Officers? Why, India, considering her utter helplessness and the strength of her rulers, ought to be grateful to Mr. Hobhouse for not bringing in a Bill to do away with Civil Courts altogether."

This is strong language, but not a whit undeserved. The contempt with which public opinion is treated by Government on legislation, whether it be the Bombay Revenue Jurisdiction Bill, or the Calcutta Municipal Bill, is simply marvellous.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE has recorded a minute on the establishment of an Art-gallery in connection with the School of Art at Calcutta. Sir Richard says:

"In such a place as Calcutta the establishment of an art-gallery must be interesting from any and every point of view. But the interest is heightened when the gallery can be the means of daily instruction; will become a lecture room for classes of native students; may impart additional vigour to an institution designed to elevate the taste, refine the skill, and enlighten the ideas of the native youth who are learning art as a means of livelihood; and may thus serve an important educational purpose.

Fortunately we have been able to secure the occupation of three buildings (at Boitakhana, in continuation of Bow Bazar,) immediately adjacent to the School of Art, which buildings are being rapidly prepared by the Public Works Department for the reception of pictures. Some paintings have been presented to the institution by his Excellency the Viceroy; others have been purchased for this purpose by the Government of Bengal; many also have been promised to be lent for temporary exhibition in the gallery by native chiefs and gentlemen, among whom may be mentioned the Maharaja of Burdwan; the Raja Jotendra Mohun Tagore, the Raja Hurendra Krishna, the Raja Satyanund Ghosaul, the zemindar of Paikpara, and others; also copies are being made from private pictures now in Calcutta; one picture, too, has been presented by Mr. Palmer.

It is probable that other native gentlemen, owners of good pictures, may see fit to lend their works, either to be copied or to be exhibited for a time, until pictures shall arrive for permanent deposit in the gallery. We have ordered a few copies from works of old masters, by Signor Pompignoli of Florence, which are expected to arrive shortly. We have purchased Colonel Hyde's collection of electrotypes from ancient Greek coins in the British Museum.

If original pictures of merit in Europe shall prove to be expensive beyond our means, we may hope to obtain comparatively inexpensive copies of such works which shall give to the native youth in India of men and things in Europe, both as regards the present and the past.

Another object of the institution would be to set before the native youth a vivid and comprehensive representation of all that is most instructive and attractive in the extraordinary varied features of India, chiefly as regards natural scenery, architectural remains, national costume, and ethnological features. For such a purpose signal advantages are available, and ought to be forthcoming."

We wish the projected institution every success.

DR. MONIER WILLIAMS delivered an excellent address at the Anjaman-i-Punjab, Lahore, in which he summed up his impressions of India. We give the following extract from it:

"I have come therefore to get correct notions about this country. To see with my own eyes, to hear with my own ears, to compare things for myself, to draw inferences for myself. There are the four Pramana (in Sanskrit), and I have come here for these four Pramanas. After seeing with my own eyes and hearing with my own ears, what do I find? That India is a kind of epitome of the whole world. Here in India every race, language, philosophy, creed, custom, physical feature, climate, is represented. Then after comparing India with England, I find many parallels. What is the inference I draw? That the saying of our Bible is true, that God has made all nations of the world of one blood. The more I study India the more I am convinced of the common brotherhood of all mankind. And what else do I find in India? I am perfectly amazed at the vast work effected by the Government of this country. Its sole aim is the welfare of the people of India. Its watchword is "Cautious Progress" and what Progress do I find, material, intellectual, spiritual? Ist, with regard to material progress. I see a network of rail roads and telegraphs penetrating and girdling the country; the best carriage roads, I have ever seen are here; wonderful canals; then in the larger towns beautiful public buildings, in the smaller, signs of incipient civil life—town-halls, colleges, museums, libraries, clock-towers, post offices, good sanitary arrangements, trade, traffic, commerce, increasing everywhere. Instead of a country ravaged by the intestine wars and depopulated by pestilence and famine, I see a thriving law-abiding, rapidly multiplying population. You will admit that this is owing to good laws and justice well administered.

Then as to intellectual progress. What a work do I see; At Bombay I saw 1,263 persons being examined for matriculation. At Calcutta even more. At Patna a new college is being founded for arts and sciences. At Allahabad the Muir College. Here at Lahore, perhaps more than anywhere, signs of intellectual life and activity. Colleges and schools everywhere; libraries, reading-rooms, debating societies, societies for the dissemination of knowledge like the Enjuman, which I have now the honor of addressing. Newspapers and periodicals ably conducted. Printing presses in which the best Indian literature and many useful educational books are constantly printed. Then as to spiritual progress. This is a different and delicate subject. But this much I will say, that if it be true as I was told by a Pundit the other day (and as it must be) that the highest form of worshipping God is the *Narahara puja*, that is worshipping God in *spirit*, then I believe that this true worship of God is increasing in India. But I must return to my own country. I not only feel that I am ignorant myself about India, I feel that my fellow countrymen are ignorant too."

The learned doctor then unfolded his scheme of an Indian Institute at Oxford. We observe that he again complained of our notice of his remark that "only adventurers went to England." He said, "the *Hindoo Patriot* had an article the other day affirming that in my speech at Calcutta, I had said that only adventurers would come to England, whereas I said exactly the reverse, viz., that the best men would come, and not adventurers." We repeat again that *we* did not say any thing of the kind, we gave his words as reported in the *Statesman*, and as he has denied them, there is an end of the matter. We need hardly add that we are not responsible for what appeared in the *Statesman*.

WE HAVE received the following letter from our Assam correspondent under date the 15th instant:

"You will be shocked to hear that in the course of a month and half full one score of men of *Bamini*—a small village in the district of Nowgong were eaten by tigers but as yet no active steps have been taken by the authorities to prevent further ravages beyond the offer of a reward of Rs. 50 for the destruction of every man-eating tiger. Possibly you are not aware that the people of that district are strictly prohibited to deal in any way in fire-arms, consequently the offer of such a reward will not produce the desired result. What course can you suggest to the unfortunate people of that tract of the country to mitigate the evil?

Just the other day when Captain T. B. Michel, a *protege of Colonel Agnew, was passing by the road leading to the Nowgong Zilla School, some of the little boys of that institution* did not *Salaam* him in the way he wished, whereupon the gallant son of *Mars*, in a fit of rage, rushed to the Head Master and called upon him to explain why did he not give lessons on etiquette to the boys of his School!!!

You will be surprised to hear another case of the kind which occurred in the same station not long ago. On an evening prior to the close of the courts for certain holidays an Amlah designated as Patgiri came to *Salaam* the district officer—a Lieutenant Colonel of the Bengal Staff Corps who was found at the time to have been deeply engaged with his judicial work. The Patagiri, instead of waiting for the convenience of the *Huzur*, had the audacity to leave the court for his village residence situated at a distance of about 32 miles from the head quarters of the Nowgong District. The hakim on the other hand before leaving the Court came to remember the daring omission of the Amlah and ordered a chaprassi to get him back. The orderly could not however communicate his message to the Patgiri until he walked over 25 miles to his home whence he was obliged to return to the station to render an explanation of his conduct which he did the next morning to the entire satisfaction of the Deputy Commissioner so much so that he paid bucksish to the Patgiri—and the chaprassi following him for travelling 56 miles!!!

THE FOLLOWING notification appears in the last *Calcutta Gazette*:

The 14th February 1875.—Whereas it appears to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal that land is required to be taken by Government at the public expense for a public purpose, viz. for a scientific institution, it is hereby declared that for the above purpose a piece of land measuring 2 beeghas 15 cottahs, more or less, with buildings thereon, known as premises No. 210, Bow Bazar Street, in the town of Calcutta, bounded as follows, that is to say on the north by tenanted land No. 1, Champatollah 2nd Lane, belonging to Prem Chand Boral; on the south partly by premises No. 211, Bow Bazar Street, standing in the name of the Administrator-General, administrator to the estate of Elizabeth Heather, partly by Bow Bazar Street and partly by premises No. 204, Bow Bazar Street, belonging to Ramtonoo Seal; on the east partly by tenanted land No. 1, Champatollah 2nd Lane, belonging to Prem Chand Boral, partly by premises No. 204, Bow Bazar Street, belonging to Ramtonoo Seal, partly by premises No. 205, Bow Bazar Street, belonging to Takoor Dass and Hurry Dass Dey, partly by premises No 206, Bow Bazar Street, belonging to W. W. Bird, Esq. and partly by premises No. 209, Bow Bazar Street, belonging to Bissumbhur Dutt and on the west partly by premises No. 211, Bow Bazar Street, belonging to the Administrator-General, administrator to the estate of Elizabeth Heather, and partly by a public drain, is required for the above purpose in the aforesaid town of Calcutta,

This declaration is made, under the provisions of Section 6 of Act X of 1870, to all whom it may concern.

This looks like earnestness. If Sir Richard Temple cherishes the Science Association with his fostering care it bids fair to succeed.

AMONGST the facts in Dr. Richards' report on snake-bite in Bengal the most noticeable are that, snake-bites usually occur at night and amongst the ordinary classes of men in this country, and that most of those who are thus bitten are bitten during sleep; the seasons in which these cases occur are the rainy season and the autumn following it, that is from May to October. In the districts of Gya, Cuttuck, Midnapore, Sonthal Pergunnahs, Furreedpore &c. the mortality from snake-bites is large in the hot season from March and April.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P.
Moulvi Abdool Sobhan, Sakeedah	13	4	0
His Highness The Moharaja of Joypore G. C. S. I.	13	4	0
Fyzabad Tehjeeb Fyzabad	10	0	0
C. F. Magrath Esq. C. S. Bograh	5	4	0
The Executive Engineer 3 Rungpore B. Division.	6	0	0
Secy. Kolapore Native General Library	13	4	0
Secy. Seetabuldeo Native Club	13	4	0
Baboo Doorga Persad Mookerjea, Goruckpore	13	4	0
,, Bhagbut Nunda, Khoordah	5	0	0
,, Beer Chand Patnaik, Ungool	13	4	0
,, Doorga Persad, Purneah	4	0	0
,, Dwarka Nath Mookerjea, Khoordah	13	4	0
,, Nilmadub Chatterjea, Sookchur	1	2	0
,, Reedoy Gopaul Dutt, Bally Dewangunge	3	4	0
,, Rojony Kant Mookerjea, Hissar	6	10	0
,, Sambhoo Chunder Chatterjea, Nuddea	1	0	0
,, Obenash Chunder Chatterjea, Mokama	3	5	0
,, Saroda Persad Banerjea, Orai	7	0	0
,, Wooma Churn Ghose, Jhenidah	6	10	0
,, Purmessury Persad Dutt, Moradpore	6	10	0
,, Dayal Chand Shome, Dinapore	13	0	0
,, Prosunno Coomar Mitter, Sonepore	10	0	0
,, Debendro Nath Roy, Ulwar	8	0	0
,, Rajendro Nath Roy Chowdhoory, Takee	15	4	0
,, Doorga Persad Mookerjea, Hooghly	13	4	0
,, Kylash Chunder Roy Mohasoy, Baussore	13	4	0
,, Mohendra Narain Banerjea, Purneah	2	0	0
,, Nemy Churn Mozoomdar, Benares	13	4	0
,, Bughwan Chunder Bose, Brahmanbariah	13	4	0
,, Govind Mireshwar, Belashpore	4	0	0
,, Biss ssor Persaud, Purwar	13	4	0
,, Shib Chunder Banerjee, Behia	8	4	0
,, Kissory Lal Roy, Pogra	1	0	0
,, Kishen Lal Chowdhoory, Maida	13	4	0
,, Gooru Churn Das, Moorshedabad	6	0	0
,, Mohendro Nath Bose, Meerut	7	0	0
,, Peary Lal, Panjaub	1	12	0

ERRATUM.

Read Mohima Chunder Roy Chowdhoory Nussecrabad Rs. 5 in lieu of... 10 0 0

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Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette.—*February* 16, 1876.

GENERAL.—*The 7th February* 1876.—Mr. C. A. S. Bedford, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Pachamba Division of the Hazareebagh District, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Regulation VII of 1822 in connection with the survey of the Dhanwar estate.

The 9th February 1876.—Baboo Deno Nath De, Sub-Deputy Collector, Howrah, is allowed leave for two months, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 20th or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

The services of Mr. James Cruickshank Geddes, C. S., are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice.

The 10th February 1876.—Baboo Dwarka Nath Mookerjee, Sub-Deputy Collector, Bagirhat, is transferred to Khoolnah.

Baboo Bhoyrub Nath Palit, Sub-Deputy Collector, Khoolnah is transferred to Bagirhat.

Baboo Joggeshur M. A. and B. L. Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hooghly, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X (B.C.) of 1871,

The 11th February 1876.—Mr. John Edward Beevor Jeffery Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Tajpore Division of the Durbhunga District, is allowed subsidiary leave for a period not exceeding thirty days, to enable him to proceed on furlough, with effect from the 1st March 1876, or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. Edward Richard Henry, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is appointed to have charge of the Tajpore Division of the Durbhunga District from the date on which he may relieve Mr. J. E. B. Jeffery.

Mr. William Charles Muller, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rungpore, is allowed leave for three months, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, instead of the leave for six months, on private affairs, granted to him under orders of the 22nd December 1875, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 29th idem.

Baboo Poorna Chunder Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Chaklajat zemindaries in Julpigoree, to act as Personal Assistant to the Comissioner of Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Gobind Mohun Ghose, or until further orders, from the date on which he joined that appointment.

The 12th February 1876.—Baboo Madhub Chunder Moitro Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bogra, is transferred to Julpigoree,

Moulvi Syed Obedoollah, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the district of Bogra.

This cancels the orders of the 15th ultimo, transferring Moulvi Obedoollah to Julpigoree.

Captain N. Lowis, Manager of the Chota Nagpore Estate, is allowed leave for one month, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code,

The 14th February 1876.—The services of Colonel Arthur Elderton are replaced at the disposal of the Government of India in the Military Department with effect from the 24th November 1875.

POLICE.—*The 12th February* 1876.—Mr. David Lacey, District Superintendent of Police, Fureedpore, is allowed furlough for one year, under Section 7, Supplement F of the Civil Leave Code, together with subsidiary leave for a period not exceeding thirty days, with effect from the 1st March 1876.

The 14th February 1876.—Mr. H. R. Symons, Officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police, Hazareebagh, is transferred to Mymensingh.

The 15th February 1876.—Mr. Sandford James Kilby, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Rajshahye, is transferred to Patna for employment on special duty.

REGISTRATION.—*The 9th February* 1876.—Mr. C. G. M. Shircore, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Doomka, in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, is also appointed, to be Sub-Registrar of Doomka, *vice* Mr. W. M. Smith with effect from the 1st November 1875.

The 15th February 1876.—Surgeon W. Harvey, Civil Surgeon of Beerbhoom, is allowed subsidiary leave for a period not exceeding thirty days, to enable him to appear before the standing Medical Committee at the Presidency, with effect from the 15th instant.

The 10th February 1876.—The services of Surgeon L. R. Dawson are replaced at the disposal of the Government of India, Military Department.

Baboo Khetter Mohun Bose, Executive Engineer, is appointed to be a member of the Committee for the management of the Charitable Dispensary at Chittagong, *vice* Baboo Denonath Sen, who has left the district.

Surgeon J. J. Wood, Superintendent of Vaccination, Ranchi Circle, is allowed subsidiary leave for a period not exceeding thirty days, to enable him to proceed on furlough.

Surgeon Gopal Chunder Roy is appointed to act as Superintendent of Vaccination, Ranchi Circle, during the absence, on leave, of Dr. J. J. Wood, or until further orders.

The 14th February 1876.—Assistant Surgeon Romesh Chunder Goopto, attached to the Midnapore Charitable Dispensary, is allowed leave for three months, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code.

Assistant Surgeon Umrito Lall Moonshee, a Supernumerary at the Presidency, is appointed to have medical charge of the Midnapore Charitable Dispensary during the absence, on leave, of Assistant Surgeon Romesh Chunder Goopto, or until further orders.

Mr. A. Barooah, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is appointed to be a member of the Committee for the management of the Charitable Dispensary at Dinagepore.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

BIRTH—Ancolia near Ranaghat on the morning of the 14th February 1876. The wife of Baboo Surrat Chunder Chatterjea sub-Inspector of Post Offices Naddya District of a son.

Notice.

BENGAL SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

A Meeting of the above Association will be held at the Town Hall at 9 P. M on Wednesday the 23rd February 1876, when the President, the Hon'ble Sir Richard Temple K.C.S.I., will deliver his Inaugural Address

The Public are invited to attend.

ABDOOL LUTEEF,
Secretary.

A Special Meeting of the Justices of the Peace for the Town of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall, on Wednesday. the 23rd February 1876, at 11 o' Clock A. M., *for the following purposes:—*

1. To consider the amended Bill for consolidating the Municipal affairs of Calcutta.
2. The Chairman to report the sanction of Government for the construction of four new filters at Pultah, and to a loan of Rs. 1,45,000, being granted to the Justices on their borrowing powers being extended in the Bill now before the Bengal Council.
3. The Chairman to report the measures adopted by the Committee for construction of the work.
4. The Chairman to submit for confirmation, Resolution by General Committee recommending the expenditure of Rs. 309-11-6 for excavating silt from portion of Baleaghatta Canal, west of Palmer's Bridge, adjoining the storm outfall gates.
5. The Chairman to submit for confirmation, Resolution by General Committee recommending sale of a strip of land measuring Chittacks 4-33, in front of No. 9, Medical College Street, for Rs. 118-5-3.
6. The Chairman to submit an application from Mr. Holton, Road Overseer, for four months' privilege leave, on account of ill-health, and Resolution by General Committee recommending that in consideration of Mr. Holton having had no more than five or six weeks' leave in a service of over 18 years, that four months' leave be granted him on his full substantive pay of Rs. 175, but not horse allowance, and that a substitute on Rs. 100 *plus* Rs. 50, horse allowance, be appointed for the period.
7. The Chairman to submit a recommendation from Hastings Sub-Committee for increasing the salary of the local Overseer, Mr. Holloway, on the ground of his having to pay Rs. 30 for house rent, and of his having received only one increment in a service of eight years, and Resolution by General Committee recommending that Mr. Holloway's salary be raised from Rs. 80 to Rs. 100, in accordance with the recommendation of the local Committee.
8. The Chairman to submit memorandum of items of expenditure sanctioned in 1875, in respect of which the actual disbursements have to be made wholly or partly in 1876, amounting to Rs. 44,023-0-7, and to move that the Resolution by General Committee, recommending the required disbursements being made in 1876, be confirmed.
9. The Chairman to submit for confirmation, Resolution by General Committee respecting the supply of about 5 lacs of indigenous broken stone for the year 1876.
10. The Chairman to submit for confirmation Resolution by General Committee recommending that a three years' lease for fishing in public tanks be granted to Bissonath Coondoo, at Rs. 700 per annum.
11. The Chairman to submit for confirmation, Resolution by General Committee on renewal of lease for Town Hall Out-offices to Government.
12. The Chairman to submit for confirmation, Proceedings of the General Committee, at Meetings held on the 10th and 16th February 1876.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Justices.

19th February 1876.

WANTED.

An experienced Leveller for the Public Works Department Court of wards Raj Durbangah on a salary of Rs. 60 per mensem.

Preference should be given to him, who knows to draw neatly and can take levels &c. with Theodolite Application with copies of testimonials to be forward to the undersigned as soon as possible.

MOHA NUNDA GHOSHA,
Superintendent of Embankment
Court of wards Raj Durbhungah.

NOTICE.

History of the Hindu or Presidency College in Bengali by Rajnarain Bose. Price 4 annas, postage 1 anna. To be had at the Canning Library, the Sanscrit Press Depository, and the Adi Brahmo Samaj.

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NOTICE.

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